

News

EPA to hold public meeting
on Olin site June 23 A3

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School Committee hears Superintendent's Report

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Superintendent's Report for the School Committee meeting last Wednesday night pertained to the Social-Emotional Learning and Family Engagement Specialist, the SEEM Collaborative Coordinator, fall DESE guidance, the Panorama survey, and more.

The updates that Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand gave for the two new positions were mainly that more information would be coming once the district is ready to announce the selected candidates.

For the Social-Emotional

Learning and Family Engagement Specialist, the announcement was coming in the next few days to meet their goal of extra SEL and related programs support by July 1.

The SEEM Collaborative Coordinator of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion search was still ongoing as they narrowed it down to five candidates. Brand continued. This is part of a joint initiative among five other districts approved previously by the committee. He hoped to have a name, or at least another update, at the next meeting.

He also announced that the Bullying Prevention

and Intervention Plan would be reviewed soon, as the window of feedback was required to be opened every three years. Assistant Superintendent Christine Elliott said that there were only superficial edits made so far by the leadership team, but they would factor any input provided into the final update due in July.

When the committee asked, one example of edits she gave was adding the mission statement. She promised that the Behavioral Task Force would be reconvened before major changes are made from the community feedback.

Melissa Plowman asked

when the last time was that the district collected perception data on school climate, but Elliott said she would have to get back to her.

The information shared from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's guidance on fall school reopening said that mitigation strategies would be required through the end of this school year, but all lifted for next year's return. Summer school was encouraged to follow the same strategies as this school year.

Plowman shared a concern for summer school heat exhaustion with masks and high temperatures.

"It's very difficult for kids to learn when they're trying to manage physiological challenges," she said.

M. J. Byrnes recognized Plowman's point but said that she also understood the district's decision to follow CDC guidance.

There was some confusion among the committee because some of them had read DESE guidance saying that masks may be required for some grades in the fall. Brand said he would continue to talk with Nursing Director Doreen Crowe and Health Director Shelly Newhouse on the newest guidance.

The last item Brand dis-

cussed was information from Christine Murray which said that Panorama social-emotional surveys were already being given in classrooms.

"That was part of our plan to capture students before they left for summer... allowing specialists to take stock of data over the next couple of months to find areas to target for the fall," he said.

Plowman asked about the William James Interface starting date, which Brand answered would be this coming January.

Jay Samaha wondered if the survey questions would

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School Committee discusses summer reading

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — At the School Committee meeting last Wednesday night, Superintendent Dr. Glenn Brand began by recognizing this year's retirees in the district before updating the committee on the strategic plan and summer reading.

Brand counted 412 years of combined service between all those being recognized. He thanked them for their work and wished them a bittersweet congratulations.

The retiring staff included the following: Melissa Cahill, 35 years in special education; Lillian Hupper, 24 years in 7th grade mathematics; Carla Lynch, 13 years in education assistance; Stephen Lynch, 23 years in education and counseling; Tom MacCrate, 25 years in psychology; Jacqueline Raffi, 10 years in administration; Neal Roberts, 34 years in arts; Dennis Shaw, 16 years as principal; Mary Sullivan, 20 years in high school mathematics; Cynthia Tsoukalas, 26 years in administration; Eleanor Blake, 17 years in T.A.P. aid; Karen Kichton, 22 years in food services; Patrice Lund, 26 years in grade 5; Shari Parker, four years in program coordination; Theresa Silva, 26 years in food services; Mary Beth Smith, 32 years in preschool; Karen Strazzere, 21 years in grade 7 science; Karen Sweeney, 22 years in food services; and Kathryn Zaitz, 16 years in special education.

School Committee Chair Jenn Bryson also thanked the retiring staff for their dedication. Those present in person at the meeting took a photo as the committee took a short recess.

The superintendent later shared next steps for the 3-year strategic plan ap-



Rain did not prevent Wilmington Minutemen members John Spanks and his daughter Riley (Sons of American Legion member Gene Sullivan next in line) assisting in the retirement of many worn US Flags at their ceremony on Flag Day, Wilmington Minutemen collect worn US Flags year round. Collection bins are at Wilmington Post Office, Wilmington Town Hall and Wilmington Mason Hall. Questions- please call Minutemen Captain Frank West 978-658-1754.

Selectmen approve wine license and other requests

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — At their meeting on Monday night, the Board of Selectmen received and approved requests for some town spaces and heard an update from iPods for Wounded Veterans. Their first appointment was to consider the request for a license to sell wine at the Wilmington Farmers Market by Noel Powell.

Town Manager Jeff Hull reminded the board that this process began with state approval, which had been granted, and the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture and Wilmington Police Chief both recommended approval of the license. He noted that the earliest the wine seller could participate at the farmers market would be June 27.

After voting to approve, the board asked more information about the seller, Aeronap Cellars, which is located in Westford with

most of their grapes grown in-state. Powell shared that they offer dry white wines, roses, reds, and dessert wines.

Next, iPods for Wounded Veterans co-founder and president Paul Cardello shared their return to activities with a donation event to start a computer lab for Veterans Inc. in Worcester. Along with participating in the Stand Down event on June 18, they're bringing laptops, google homes, kindles, echo dots, Bluetooth speakers, bose headphones, and amazon fire tablets.

"This helps veterans get service-related connection to online employers which they don't have presently," he said. He added that this event also includes a job fair and it's free for veterans. Other recent events they've attended included a ceremony for veterans who have passed away in hospice.

Cardello also appreciated the help of all of their

collaborators and sponsors, all of which he listed off. These were places like the Buzzell Senior Center, Wilmington Veterans Services, We're One Wilmington, Bank of America, Hudson RPM, Dollar Tree, Target, and Cornell University.

He said that the STAR program at the senior center had produced tons of knitted items and bracelets, and students at Wilmington High School and other local schools had written Dear Soldier Letters, all of which will also be donated.

Furthermore, he spoke of upcoming events like the Chelmsford 4th of July parade on July 5. Then they have veterans events on July 24 in Quincy, Sept. 10 at City Hall Plaza, and the VA baseball field in Brockton on Sept. 24.

The board appreciated all of their efforts to bring new things to veterans and thanked Cardello.

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Board of Selectmen take interest in charging stations

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — The Board of Selectmen discussed the possibility of accepting a grant from the Reading Municipal Light Department for the installation of two electric vehicle charging stations at their meeting on Monday night. Town Manager Jeff Hull shared a memo where he explained that they had 30 days to decide whether to accept the grant, and the stations would cost nothing to the town for installation or operation.

Hull explained there is an app that helps electric vehicle drivers locate these stations and pay for use.

He said that this would be a great way to start accommodating residents with electric cars. The locations he mentioned that were identified as meeting the Mass DEP criteria were at Yentile Farm

and the Town Hall.

Kevin Caira agreed that it would be good to put in electric charging stations, but that these would not be optimal locations in town.

"Designating two charging stations will just be two parking spots that can't be used," he said.

While he wasn't against using two parking spots at Town Hall, he said there aren't any to spare at Yentile Farm, and the stations would be out of commission in the winter because the area isn't plowed. He thought of parking spaces at the high school, the Swain Green, and the train stations as alternate locations.

Superintendent of Buildings George Hooper spoke up to say that he only had two weeks to suggest places to Mass DEP. He said he presented five locations to

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Wilmington Library News:

Jazz concert on the Swain Green on Thursday, June 24

Show Your Support for the Library with a Free WML 150th Lawn Sign. Join in the celebration and be one of the 150 houses in Wilmington to display our 150th Anniversary Yard Sign. Available now for pick-up at the library.

Library History Fact

Charles W. Swain, a prominent Wilmington citizen who was instrumental in the establishment of the public library, became its first Librarian. He acted as both the Town Treasurer and Town Librarian until 1879.

Adult Programs**Creative Writing Group****Virtual via Zoom**

Tuesday, June 22, 7 p.m. Learn and apply creative writing tips, tools, and techniques shared by published authors and other writing experts. Open to all who want to improve their creative writing skills and get their work published. Led by local writing enthusiast, Barbara Alevras. If you are interested in attending this event, please email Assistant Director Charlotte Wood at cwood@wilmlibrary.org.

Well Read Wednesday**Outdoor @ WML**

Wednesday, June 23, 10 a.m. Movin' babies 0-24 months and their caregivers can come out and play focused baby program full of songs, rhymes, and dancing on the WML lawn! Ages 0-24 months

Featured book: The Great Gatsby by F Scott Fitzgerald

Join Library Director Tina Stewart for a discussion. This book group discusses contemporary books, both fiction and non-fiction, led by Library Director Tina Stewart.

Social Justice Book Group**Virtual via Zoom**

Wednesday, June 23, 7 p.m. Featured Book: Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X Kendi.

This group, which will meet the fourth Wednesday of the month, continues the work started with the library's antiracism series. Instead of discussing the entire book, the group will read a select number of chapters per month to allow for more in-depth conversation. Copies of the book will be available at the library's main desk.

Vintage Jazz Concert**Outdoor @ Swain Green**

Thursday, June 24, 7 p.m. Enjoy an evening outdoors listening to jazz music from the Gatsby era!

Les Sampou and The Dirty Martinis Jazz Band will entertain you with jazz standards from the 20s and 30s plus a few well-known American Songbook tunes from the 40s for good measure. Be sure to bring your

folding chairs or a blanket to sit on. This event is weather dependent.

Youth Programs**Summer Reading Kickoff:****Tails, Tricks and Tales: A Magical Summer Reading Show****Outdoor @ Swain Green**

Wednesday, June 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Entertainer extraordinaire Mike Bent will kick off our summer reading program with amazing magic, hilarious comedy, crazy puppets, music, sound effects and riveting storytelling. Event location: Swain Green. All ages

The Story of the Jaguar: A Japanese Paper Theater Storytelling Program with STEM Activities**Outdoor @ WML**

Thursday, June 24 and

Friday, June 25 at 11 a.m.

Notable Storyteller Yumi Izuyama and STEM+3D Instructor Kendall Inglese present an Arts & Science interpretation of traditional Kamishibai, a unique Japanese tradition. The Story of the Jaguar is based on a challenge a young boy faces with species in the Amazon Forest in Brazil.

Fun activities include the species ecosystem in session 1 and adaptation

games in session 2. You may attend either or both sessions. Grades K-5

Resin Shaker Keychains Crafternoon**Outdoor @ WML**

Thursday, June 24, 4 p.m.

Create cheeky animal-themed shaker charms on keychains using UV resin, dyes, glitter, and baby oil. Grades 4+

Read to Thor**Outdoor @ WML**

Friday, June 25, 10 a.m.

Come read to Thor, a beautiful dog who loves to listen to kids read. Sign up for one 15 minute session per reader. Thor will be outdoors in the Peggy Kane Reading Garden unless if the weather is inclement. Grades K-4

Little Movers**Outdoor @ WML**

Saturday, June 26 at 10 a.m.

Movin' babies 0-24 months and their caregivers can come out and play focused baby program full of songs, rhymes, and dancing on the WML lawn!

Ages 0-24 months

D&D**Virtual via Zoom**

Saturday, June 26 at 3 p.m.

Interested in finding out

more about this fantasy tabletop role-playing game,

or looking for a group to play with? Join DM Michaela for a virtual campaign via Zoom every month! Make a Level 5 character on D&D Beyond before playing. Grades 6-8

Kids Create: Recycled Paper Making**Outdoor @ WML**

Saturday, June 26 at 3 p.m.

Reduce, reuse, and recycle by learning how to make homemade paper with the whole family outside the WML! Ages 3+

Baby Time**Outdoor @ WML**

Thursday, June 24 at 9:30 a.m.

This program of songs, rhymes, games and picture books is for babies under the age of two years and their caregivers. Please bring a blanket or low chairs and something for you and baby to shake (rattles, car keys, bottles full of rice or beans).

Time for Twos**Outdoor @ WML**

Thursday, June 24 at 10:30 a.m.

This storytime for two year olds includes books, rhymes, music and movement. Please bring something to sit on (blanket or low chairs) and something to shake (rattles, car keys, bottles full of rice or beans).

Summer Reading Program

Enter into raffles for fun wildlife experiences like a Whale Watch, a New England Aquarium Membership, a Crane Beach Parking Permit, and even Drive-In Movie Gift Certificates by completing activity and logging badges! More prizes throughout the Summer Reading Program include a library 150th anniversary cap, a free book, a free ice cream, or a hummingbird feeder! Participate in a scavenger hunt around town, make animal-themed crafts, participate in hands-on wildlife programs! Sign up on Beanstack to get started.

WML Outdoor Programming

Registration is required to ensure social distancing. If inclement weather is forecast, the program may be held virtually on Zoom. Please check out website on the day of the program to confirm location.

WML Virtual Programming

The library continues to offer a variety of virtual events. Please note that registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link. Go to wilmlibrary.org to register or call 978-658-2967.

2021 Wilmington public school retirees

WILMINGTON — At the June 9 Wilmington School Committee meeting, the superintendent celebrated the 2020-21 retirees. This year our retirees collectively represented well over 400 combined years of service and dedication to the Wilmington educational community and to the students in our community.

On behalf of our School Committee and families, the district would like to thank them for their service and inspiration to the young people we serve and to wish them nothing but good health and happiness on the next leg of their



journey.

In honor of all of our re-

tirees. A poem...

The Ripple Effect

Drop a pebble in the water: in a minute you forget,

But there's little waves a-flowing and there's ripples circling yet,

And those little waves a-flowing to a great big wave have grown;

You've disturbed a mighty river just by dropping in a stone.

For the thousands of pebbles you have dropped in the water,

the ripples are endless!

Your students will forever take a part of you into their futures

and your friends a part of you in our hearts.

Congratulations on your retirement!

A complete list of all of our retirees this year includes:

Melissa Cahill

35 years, special educa-

tion teacher, Wilmington Middle School

Lillian Hupper

24 years, math teacher, grade 7, Wilmington Middle School

Carla Lynch

13 years, educational assistant, Wilmington Middle School

Stephen Lynch

23 years, social studies teacher, Wilmington High School

Thomas MacCracken

25 years, school psychologist, Woburn Street Elementary

Jacquie Raffi

10 years, assistant director of administration & finance, for the district

Neal Roberts

34 years, art teacher, Wilmington Middle School

Dennis Shaw

16 years, principal, West Intermediate School

Mary Sullivan

20 years, math teacher, Wilmington High School

Patrice Lund

26 years, grade 5 teacher, North Intermediate School

Karen Kichton

22 years, food services at

Wilmington High School

Karen Strazere

21 years, science teacher, grade 7, Wilmington Middle School

Karen Sweeney

22 years, food services, West Intermediate School

Mary Beth Smith

32 years, preschool teacher, Boutwell School

Theresa Silva

26 years, food services, West Intermediate School

Cynthia Tsoukalas

33 years, administrative assistant, Wilmington High School

Eleanor Blake

17 years, TAP aide, Wilmington High School

Karen Kichton

22 years, food services at

Wilmington High School

Shari Parker

4 years, program coordinator for CARES for the

district

▲ Above, from left: Dr. Jenn Bryson, Chair Wilmington School Committee; Stephen Lynch, WHS social studies teacher; Mary Sullivan, WMS math teacher; Cynthia Tsoukalas, WHS administrative assistant; Melissa Cahill, WMS special education; Lillian Hupper, WMS 7th grade math teacher; Neal Roberts, WMS art teacher & WPS visual arts liaison; Jacquie Raffi, assistant director of administration & finance; Dennis Shaw, West Intermediate School principal; and Dr. Glenn Brand, Superintendent of Schools.

(Courtesy photo)**Cynthia Tsoukalas**

26 years, administrative assistant, Wilmington High School

Eleanor Blake

17 years, TAP aide, Wilmington High School

Karen Kichton

22 years, food services at

Wilmington High School

Karen Sweeney

22 years, food services, West Intermediate School

Mary Beth Smith

32 years, preschool teacher, Boutwell School

Karen Strazere

21 years, science teacher, grade 7, Wilmington Middle School

Karen Sweeney

22 years, food services, West Intermediate School

Theresa Silva

26 years, food services, West Intermediate School

Cynthia Tsoukalas

33 years, administrative assistant, Wilmington High School

Eleanor Blake

17 years, TAP aide, Wilmington High School

Karen Kichton

22 years, food services at

Wednesday, June 23 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

EPA to hold public meeting regarding Olin site

WILMINGTON - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. to update residents on next steps for the Olin Chemical Superfund Site in Wilmington.

In March, EPA issued an interim cleanup plan for groundwater and final cleanup plan for soil, sediments, and surface water at the Wilmington site. During the meeting, EPA will provide updates on upcoming and ongoing remedial activities, including upgrades to the temporary cap on the "Containment Area" feature on the 51 Eames St. Olin property, and ongoing groundwater investigations.

EPA's updates will be followed by a question-and-answer session, during

which a representative from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MassDPH) will be available to answer questions about the Wilmington Childhood Cancer Study.

EPA's March 2021 Record of Decision (ROD) addresses contamination in groundwater, surface water, soils, and sediments at the Site. The groundwater portion of the ROD is an interim measure to mitigate immediate risks to public health and the environment, control the major sources of contamination to the aquifer, and prevent the further spread of the groundwater contaminant plume.

Concurrently, EPA is continuing to oversee longer-term groundwater studies at the Site. Information from these investigations will be used to help EPA develop a

final cleanup plan for groundwater in the future.

Background:

The Site is comprised of the Olin property, an approximately 50-acre parcel located at 51 Eames St. in Wilmington and adjoining areas that have been impacted by contaminant releases from manufacturing and waste disposal activities formerly conducted at the property.

A chemical manufacturing facility was located within the 30-acre northern portion of the property, which produced blowing agents, stabilizers, antioxidants, and other specialized chemicals for the rubber and plastics industry from 1953 until it closed in 1986.

The facility was owned and operated by several different corporate entities over time, including National Polychemicals, Inc., American Biltrite Rubber Company, Fisons Limited and Fisons Corporation (later known as NOR-AM Agro LLC), Stepan Chemical, and Olin Corporation (Olin).

Olin purchased the property in 1980 and operated the facility until 1986, when the facility ceased operation. Olin continues to own the property.

During the facility's operation, wastes were released to the environment, including from disposal on the property in unlined and leaking lagoons and due to spills and other releases.

As the liquid materials moved downward through the soil, they reached the groundwater table. Because the liquids were denser than water, they continued to sink downward, pooling

in a series of cascading depressions on the bedrock surface.

groundwater.

More information:

Information on EPA's work to address contamination at the Olin Chemical Superfund Site, and all site documents are available at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/olin>.

The virtual meeting will be held using the Microsoft Teams platform. A meeting link and instructions to participate will be posted on the site's webpage (above link). Participants may also join by phone by dialing +1 857-299-6148 and then entering meeting ID: 843 451 080#.

During the question-and-answer session, participants will be able to post questions in the chat box. The questions will be read aloud by a moderator and responded to by the Olin Site team and MassDPH. Questions will also be taken over the phone for those who cannot post questions online.

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OPINION

Duff announces withdrawal from Auditor's race

GLOUCESTER — Governor's Councilor Eileen Duff, who recently announced her campaign for Auditor, released the following statement Friday afternoon:

"First, I want to thank everyone who so quickly reached out to voice their support for our run for Auditor. I was overwhelmed with gratitude and absolutely humbled by how many of you sought the same vision for the Commonwealth as myself."

"It is with great regret that, due to a family health situation, I cannot justify the time commitment of a statewide run for office at this time and will be withdrawing from the race. Family always comes first for the Duffs."

"I wish all of the luck to the other candidates running. It is already shaping up to be a talented field and the Democratic party is lucky to have so many thoughtful contenders. Auditor Bump is leaving a tremendous legacy behind and it is so vital to build on the great work she has

done to ensure taxpayer money is protected and that our agencies are adopting best practices and functioning at their highest capacity.

"I look forward to continuing the important work at the Governor's Council for the years to come."

ABOUT EILEEN

Eileen Duff is currently a Governor's Councilor for Massachusetts' 5th district, where she has fought for equity in the judicial system since 2013. In winning her first election, she was the first open LGBTQ+ person to be elected to a constitutional office.

Prior to becoming an elected official, Eileen worked as a Chaplain for the Hospice of the North Shore and Greater Boston. She was also appointed by President Clinton to work as Confidential Assistant to Commissioner Rachelle Chong at the FCC in Washington, where she won many awards for public service.

She currently resides in Cape Ann with her wife Jan.

Giant yard sale this Saturday

On Saturday, June 19 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., the North Reading Masons and Order of Eastern Star will have a yard sale at 283 Park St. in North Reading. Please come by and shop and find your treasure.

Electronics, TVs, yard tools, small and large

items. We will have all kinds of kitchen gadgets, tables, clothes, blankets, Christmas ornaments and lots of other items.

No reasonable offer refused!!!

Any questions please call Kim Bauer at 978-979-0378.

Eight Wilmington and 10 Tewksbury residents to participate in 2021 Pan-Mass Challenge

NEEDHAM — On Aug. 7 and 8, more than 6,000 riders, volunteers, donors and sponsors back together in person for PMC Ride Weekend this year," said Billy Starr, founder and executive director of the PMC. "With fully supported routes and Reimagined options, everyone can customize their PMC experience to join us in the fight against cancer. Cancer doesn't stop for anything, even a global pandemic, and funding for research, treatment and care is as critical as ever."

The PMC is the nation's single most successful athletic fundraiser, donating 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar to Dana-Farber as its largest single contributor, accounting for 64 percent of its Jimmy Fund's annual revenue.

For the first time since 2019, more than 6,000 riders from 47 states and 11 countries will once again hit the road together during the first weekend of August with the common goal of making an impact in the fight against cancer. In 2020, the PMC raised an impressive \$50 million through its summer-long Reimagined campaign, bringing its 41-year contribution to \$767 million.

"We couldn't be more excited to bring our pas-

sionate PMC riders, volunteers, donors and sponsors back together in person for PMC Ride Weekend this year," said Billy Starr, founder and executive director of the PMC. "With fully supported routes and Reimagined options, everyone can customize their PMC experience to join us in the fight against cancer. Cancer doesn't stop for anything, even a global pandemic, and funding for research, treatment and care is as critical as ever."

PMC 2021 will include 16 routes — from 25 to 211 miles — designed to cater to all levels of cycling and fundraising ability, including Reimagined options for those who prefer to complete their PMC ride on their own. Most participate in honor of a family member or friend fighting cancer and more than 950 riders and volunteers are cancer survivors or current patients, considered Living Proof® of the PMC mission. More than 150 Dana-Farber employees are committed to the cause as riders and volunteers as well, in some cases to fund their own cancer research.

Registration for PMC 2021 is open through June 20.

For the first time since 2019, more than 6,000 riders from 47 states and 11 countries will once again hit the road together during the first weekend of August with the common goal of making an impact in the fight against cancer. In 2020, the PMC raised an impressive \$50 million through its summer-long Reimagined campaign, bringing its 41-year contribution to \$767 million.

"We couldn't be more excited to bring our pas-

By PAUL J. ANDREWS
andrews@massupt.org
Mass. Ass'n of School
Superintendents
Member of Board of
Winchester Hospital

Candidly, I feel most of our population including our young and not so young folks understand this but it needs to be said. As the pandemic slows down and becomes less of a problem, the issue emerges about how we are to react to this happening in our world and communities.

While many workers are back at their employment (unless they never left) and our young folks back in schools, there is some joy emerging at the progress resulting from the vaccinations as well as the guidance cautions our people have exercised over the past year as the COVID-19 pandemic brought tragedy and disease to our country.

What I fear the most is that the "fast track lifestyle" that many had been used to enjoy before the pandemic will quickly erupt as if the past year didn't exist. This would be a horrible scenario, as I am convinced that a gradual process of cultural recovery is absolutely necessary.

Very specifically, while I have heard President Biden say we will see a good chance of backyard cookouts on July 4, I still feel that the COVID-19

precautions should be practiced to a lesser degree in crowded sites as guidance, to make our interactions with each other one of safety and prevention.

I feel that we will see great strides ahead and know events will be held with my hopes that at all of these family or group events caution and safety are still front and center in planning.

ALZHEIMER'S DRUG APPROVAL came this past week that we referenced would happen in last week's column. While the official new name for the projected medication is Aduhelm and was approved, the long awaited medication has some serious issues ahead as three members of the government agency that approved the medication have resigned from the panel after the decision, taking an exception to the action on approval.

Aduhelm reportedly works to reduce the buildup of amyloid plaques in the brain and administered by way of hour-long infusions every four weeks at \$56,000 a year. A caveat was attached by the FDA requiring a confirmatory clinical trial was needed because of concerns reportedly about effectiveness of the new medication.

We should note that there is apparently concerns around the "benefits issue" by some of the

panel members making this decision on the drug produced by Biogen of Cambridge. While these issues are out there, a concern comes up on the payment amount for the medication and the status of medical plan financial assistance to those seeking the treatment for early onset Alzheimer's.

While the print and electronic media have carried the notification of approval on the well sought after medication, the details on implementation are still to be determined. One positive speculation point from some sources states that at the very least this will stimulate other companies to move forward with their own scientific investigation for a similar medication.

Obviously, there is more needed and to come on this important medication for Alzheimer's patients and families.

SOME MORNING EXTRACTS include the following: Americans struggle to save in pandemic year; Exercise boosts blood flow to the brain, keeping it sharp; Are "disrupted" employees a new security threat; Small business recovery remains fragile; For profit nursing homes will likely remain part of long term care; Some yearn for their commutes after a year of working from home; Family offices face big risk from hackers and

scammers; Heavier workloads on tech workers lead to mental health concerns; To keep a sharp mind, start thinking of heart health in your 20's; Cybersecurity is key to protecting hotel guests, staff and brand reputation; Good planning can reduce the chances of taxes hurting your retirement funds; Federal spending is stimulating retail, real estate sectors; State lawmakers consider tax-free savings accounts for first time homebuyers; The more steps you take, the lower your risk of dying; Telephone doctor visits have been a boom to needy patients; Socialized medicine, not worth the price; The COVID-19 downturn may cut social Security benefits for some; United Kingdom women have up to 45 percent less in retirement than men; Bill Gates' farmland buying spree highlights investment appeal; and Demonstrators protest against proposed Hawaii solar farm.

NOTE: We are especially asking readers to submit suggestions on thoughts and ideas for future columns, as we are trying to always connect to our readers, while extending our appreciation to so many of you who follow this practice in e-mail comments to me at andrews@massupt.org or in person as I travel our great Daily Times Chronicle land.

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All submissions must be accompanied by full name, address, and daytime contact information for verification purposes.

Letters must be e-mailed by noon on Monday in order for consideration the same week's edition.

Alzheimer's drug status: Slow slide essential as pandemic lessens in US

precautions should be practiced to a lesser degree in crowded sites as guidance, to make our interactions with each other one of safety and prevention.

I feel that we will see great strides ahead and know events will be held with my hopes that at all of these family or group events caution and safety are still front and center in planning.

ALZHEIMER'S DRUG APPROVAL came this past week that we referenced would happen in last week's column. While the official new name for the projected medication is Aduhelm and was approved, the long awaited medication has some serious issues ahead as three members of the government agency that approved the medication have resigned from the panel after the decision, taking an exception to the action on approval.

Aduhelm reportedly works to reduce the buildup of amyloid plaques in the brain and administered by way of hour-long infusions every four weeks at \$56,000 a year. A caveat was attached by the FDA requiring a confirmatory clinical trial was needed because of concerns reportedly about effectiveness of the new medication.

Obviously, there is more needed and to come on this important medication for Alzheimer's patients and families.

Book Stew Review

'Leaving Isn't the Hardest Thing:' Essays by Lauren Hough

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

through ongoing searches for family to replace the two she left, and finds it mostly while bartending, where the back of the house workers are mostly misfits also, and also in a 10-year stint as a cable tv service technician.

How Lauren became a whole person again, a warrior against hypocrisy, and a fine writer under these circumstances is fairly miraculous and a riveting adventure for the reader.

Quotes: "It may not be as visible a mark of your class as bad teeth, but a history of violence being acted on you by those you love is just as effective at keeping you from climbing too high."

"My friendships, if you could call them that, were built on all the depth and intimacy of a fourth-grade relationship that starts and ends with 'We sat together at lunch for a week' and lasted as long."

Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

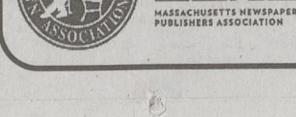
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OBITUARIES

Mathias Bryant Bedell Enlisted in the United States Navy

Mathias Bryant Bedell, fondly known as "Bryant" to his family and friends, of Haverhill, formerly of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on June 12, 2021, at the Boston Medical Center. He was 88 years old.

Bryant was born on Dec. 31, 1932, in Winchester; he was the dear son of the late LeRoy and Vilma (Bryant) Bedell. Bryant was raised and educated in Wilmington and a graduate of Wilmington High School with the Class of 1952.

Following graduation, Bryant, enlisted in the United States Navy on Jan. 27, 1953; he served overseas aboard the USS Salisbury before returning stateside to California. Bryant was honorably discharged on Dec. 21, 1956, and returned home to his family.

Upon his return from active duty with the Navy, Bryant went to work for his father and the family business, Bedell Brothers Insurance Company located in Wilmington Center.

Bryant had a great work ethic, vast knowledge of the insurance industry, wonderful people skills and a great personality; these were all attributes that made him quite successful throughout his career. Bry-

ant along with his brother Bennett took over the family business in 1960 and ran it successfully for many years before retiring.

Bryant had a thirst for knowledge and was well read in many subjects; that along with his love for helping people and involvement in his community led him to sit on the Board of Directors at Mass Bank for over 30 years and the Board of Directors at Winchester Hospital for many years as well.

He was a long-time member and Past President of the Wilmington Rotary Club where he had many friends, involved himself in community activities, fundraisers and threw memorable yearly Clam Bakes for the whole club.

In his spare time, Bryant enjoyed reading, traveling, and spending time with his family and friends. Bryant was an all-around "good guy" and will be forever missed by all who loved him.

Bryant was the beloved husband of Bobbie J. (Malcolm) Bedell of Haverhill, devoted father of Ellen Bedell and her husband Ray Dechoretz of South Bristol, ME, Nora Pearson, Andrew Bedell, Michael Bedell and his wife Christine all of Haverhill, stepfather



of Steven Puglia of North Reading, Sherry Ohlson of North Reading, and David Puglia of Haverhill.

Loving grampa of Olivia and Evan Pearson, Julia and Peilan Bedell, Courtney and Ryan Puglia, Samantha, and Sara Ohlson.

Dear brother of Shirley O'Donnell of Marshfield, Marjorie Spear of Wilmington, Iva Riley of Chico, CA, the late LeRoy "Bennett" Bedell Jr., the late Richard Bedell and the late Vilma Merrill.

Bryant is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

At Bryant's request, his Funeral Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Bryant's memory to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959 or to the Wounded Warrior Project, 4899 Belfort Road, Suite 300, Jacksonville, FL 32256.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Nichols Funeral Home, Wilmington, MA.

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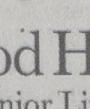
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Helen M. (Valente) Kliest Private funeral services

Helen M. (Valente) Kliest, age 93, died June 5, 2021.

She was the daughter of the late Angelo and Margaret (Russo) Valente.

At her request, funeral services were private. Memorials to the Wilmington Food Pantry, 142 Chestnut St., Wilmington, MA 01887 are encouraged. The Tewksbury Funeral Home is

honored to serve her family.

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Tewksbury Police Log

Male party charged with third offense OUI

Monday, June 7

1:52 a.m. - Police at Kernwood Avenue for a suspicious vehicle. Party was lost and they would be on their way.

2:58 a.m. - Fence gate into the wood marked as private property was pushed back at Ames Hill Drive. Chain to secure the gate was on the ground. Gate normally closed and secure. Checked area but nothing was there. Message left to property owner. Police would take report if the property owner reports a crime.

3:23 p.m. - Caller believed he was the victim of the social security scam at Squire Lane. He was looking for a report. Police sent and filed a report.

10:18 p.m. - Female caller reported hearing banging and yelling from the unit above her at Main Street. Police sent. Police spoke to the caller and checked the above unit. Nothing found. The police checked the surrounding areas, but still nothing.

Tuesday, June 8

2:07 a.m. - Police out at Stadium Plaza reporting an open door. Police sent. Nothing was found, building was secure.

10:07 a.m. - Police sent at Tewksbury Memorial High School for a report of trespassing. All units cleared. Police were able to handle the situation prior to their arrival.

10:36 a.m. - Call from

Motel 6 for a green Volvo parked in the back of the parking lot with two parties that appeared to be intoxicated. Police sent. These parties checked out; they were just eating after dropping off their friends.

5:16 p.m. - Caller requested to speak to an officer regarding threats that a third party made to his landlord at Pleasant Street. Police sent and filed a report.

Wednesday, June 9

7:27 p.m. - A 911 caller reported a female party staying at Fairfield Inn reported a suspicious male loitering outside her room. Police sent. Police requested for an ambulance for alcohol poisoning. Ambu-

lance sent to Saint Hospital.

10:13 p.m. - A 911 caller reported hearing two young children screaming at Archstone Avenue. Police sent and spoke with residence in the unit, advised the yelling was from a child who did not want to go to bed.

11:47 p.m. - 911 call for three people fighting in the parking lot at Applebee's. Two kids drove off in a white pickup truck towards Lowell and the other male was in a silver Chevy and pulled onto 495 North. Units spoke with the caller. All parties left the scene.

Thursday, June 10

1:14 a.m. - An erratic

driver at East Street and Livingston Street. Police sent. They did not observe any erratic operator while following the vehicle. All units cleared.

the parking lot of Marriott Towne Place. Police sent and the party was returning inside.

10:07 a.m. - A 911 caller stated there was a car in a bush at Wendy's. Police sent. Ernest Bleinberger, 66, of 1695 Andover St. in Tewksbury, was arrested and charged with third offense of OUI, negligent operation of motor vehicle, and marked lanes violation.

Saturday, June 12

7:45 a.m. - Caller at Wings Auto reported a vehicle in the lot without any plates and not sure why it was there. Police sent and they spoke to the caller.

Sunday, June 13

11:59 a.m. - 911 caller reported an aggressive male party at Circle K, but the party left. Police sent and filed a report.

12:20 a.m. - 911 caller reported an erratic driver in a dark brown Ford Edge believed driver was heading towards Main Street. Police sent and vehicle was parked.

2:38 a.m. - Caller reported loud music coming from

ards his house.

7:26 a.m.: A resident on Carter Lane reported that there were daily speeding cars around 6 p.m. between Shawsheen Avenue and the middle school.

2:02 p.m.: Police assisted the Fire Department in putting out a small mulch fire at NAPA on Middlesex Avenue.

Tuesday, June 8:

7:46 a.m.: It was reported that McCarthy Contracting Company was working in the area of Eames Street and removed a speed limit sign without permission from the town. An officer spoke with the foreman and the sign was then replaced.

1:34 a.m.: A caller reported that a white man in his mid-20's was standing in the dark near a dentist's office on Lowell Street for 15 minutes. When police encountered the figure, he explained that he was playing Pokémon as he could not sleep. Police advised him of the call and the party continued toward the road.

8:12 p.m.: A male party at the Town Beach on Burnap Street reported that a female was yelling and swearing. Two more calls were received that stated

it was a mother who was hitting and yelling at her daughter, possibly in a kayak. Peace was restored when a male revealed that two prior groups were arguing.

12:44 a.m.: A caller reported that she was almost out of gas, but was afraid to continue driving without an officer in case she did not make it. An officer then escorted the grey 2013 Honda Civic to the Shell Gas Station on Middlesex Avenue.

1:24 a.m.: A caller reported that she was almost out of gas, but was afraid to continue driving without an officer in case she did not make it. An officer then escorted the grey 2013 Honda Civic to the Shell Gas Station on Middlesex Avenue.

7:23 p.m.: Michael Giuseppe Ciampa of 485 Forest St. in North Andover was arrested for OUI - Liquor Over 0.08%, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle, Speeding in Excess of Posted Limit, OUI While License is Suspended for OUI, Marked Lanes Violation, and Leaving the Scene of Property Damage. This occurred after a one-car collision with a rollover was reported on West Street involving a white 2018 Mercedes-Benz GLE 350. The operator fled on foot and a rock wall on West Street was left damaged.

8:48 a.m.: A fire was reported at Cardinal Court, where it was found that the flames were extending from a mattress towards the house. The Fire Department responded and the Red Cross was requested.

8:48 a.m.: An officer on Shawsheen Avenue reported that a black sports-type motorcycle failed to stop and was heading towards Billerica. The motorcycle was going about 65 MPH near the Shawsheen School and had almost caused a head on collision. Billerica police were alerted.

9:57 p.m.: An officer on Shawsheen Avenue reported that a black sports-type motorcycle failed to stop and was heading towards Billerica. The motorcycle was going about 65 MPH near the Shawsheen School and had almost caused a head on collision. Billerica police were alerted.

11:48 a.m.: A fire was reported at Cardinal Court, where it was found that the flames were extending from a mattress towards the house. The Fire Department responded and the Red Cross was requested.

6:25 p.m.: The store ma-

RMLD lobby reopening to public on June 15

READING — Following the Reading Board of Health's vote to rescind all COVID-19-related emergency orders, the Reading Municipal Light Department (RMLD) will reopen its lobby to customers on Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

The RMLD, given its essential business in the provision of safe and reliable electricity, will continue to implement and recommend some practices aimed at keeping its employees and customers safe. All customers and visitors are recommended to wear masks and practice social distancing and proper hygiene while inside

the building. Lobby restrooms will remain closed to the public.

RMLD's business hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. RMLD is available to respond to outages and emergencies 24/7/365.

Customers are encouraged to continue to utilize phone or electronic communications when possible. Remote bill payment options are as follows:

- Pay Online: www.rmld.com
- Pay by Phone: 1-844-368-3946

Drop Box:

- RMLD - 230 Ash St., Reading

• Reading Town Hall - 16 Lowell St., Reading

- New England Beverage - 158 Main St., North Reading

- Lucci's Supermarket - 223 Lowell St., Wilmington

- By Mail

RMLD maintained excellent customer service, reliability, and business continuity during the pandemic. Thanks to all of our customers for their flexibility as we managed adjustments to our operations to accommodate vital safety restrictions over the last year plus.

Please visit www.rmld.com for information on RMLD programs and services.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021

1, 2 and 3 Middlesex League Champions

A different sport provides big results for Abel

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
BURLINGTON - When Jeandre Abel was in the eighth grade, he played football. When the season ended, his mother told him that he could no longer play the game because of the possibility of serious physical injuries.

"My options were limited," he said with a big laugh.

So he turned to track-and-field.

Last Thursday afternoon, Abel became the first individual from the Wilmington High School boys track team to capture a Middlesex League championship title in a non-running/relay event since Wilmington moved into the league in the Fall of 2011.

He follows Steve Layon (discus), Eli Jennings (twice in the shot put), Pat Barry (javelin) and the 4x100 relay team as the lone league champions.

Abel captured the 100-meter title with a time of 11.43 seconds, while he was also the anchor leg of the second place 4x100 relay team and also placed tenth in the high

jump.

"Jeandre has had a nagging injury throughout the entire indoor season and all outdoors," said Wilmington boys track coach Mike Kinney. "He's been a little reluctant to go one hundred percent but I think he proved to himself (on Thursday) that he's one of the elite sprinters in the state."

"He's a junior and he's trying to get ready for college, so I think getting a big win like this, a lot of college coaches will like that. He had to run the preliminary heat, then the finals, so in that event, it's usually the high profiled sprinters. He got an awesome jump out of the blocks. Looking at the pictures and videos, he just had an awesome start."

Things immediately clicked for Abel in the preliminary heat - well they started to click once the gun went off.

"In the first 100-meter trial, I was really getting stressed out. I don't even know why because I knew that I was faster than most of the people. I knew that there was one kid who was faster than me," he remarked. "I was so stressed out and I get stressed out before races.



Wilmington High junior Jeandre Abel was the 100-meter dash champion at last Thursday's Middlesex League Championship Meet. Here he gets out front of Arlington's Kensei Chen and Belmont's Austin Lasseter.

(courtesy photo/Susan Kulis).

I talked to a couple of friends and I was able to calm myself down - it was kind of a combination of calming down and getting all stressed again."

He eventually did settle down.

"Once I got to the blocks, I just tried to not think about it, so I was able to calm myself down and I

felt very comfortable. I had a good block start and

ABEL B4W

Kulis jumps over obstacles, takes 100-meter hurdles title

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
BURLINGTON - If you watch the video of Celia Kulis when she captured the 100-meter hurdle championship at last Thursday's Middlesex League Meet, it looked as if she was shot out of a cannon. She hit the second

hurdle and no one could catch her, completely blowing away the rest of the competition with a time of 15.83 seconds as the second place finisher was clocked at 16.31.

If that's not amazing enough, how she did it is truly remarkable. Her legs

KULIS B4W

LaVita is No. 1 in discus, throws over 100-feet

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
BURLINGTON - Before this season, Sarah LaVita wasn't a discus thrower. In fact, two years ago at the Middlesex League Championship meet, she finished sixth in the javelin.

This past Thursday, she participated in three throwing events at the same championship meet. This time she was first in

her new event, the discus, throwing an incredible 105-07 inches. She was also second in the javelin toss, which was 19 feet better than her mark two years ago, and was 14th in the shot put.

But it's the discus throw that really stands out. Not because she won and is now the best in the Middlesex League, but her 105-07 mark would have

LAVITA B4W



Celia Kulis, shown here during an earlier season track meet, was crowned the Middlesex League Champion in the 100-meter hurdles on Thursday, while she also broke a school record in doing so. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

On the diamond, Gabardi excelling for Austin Prep

By DAN ZIMMERMAN
Sports Correspondent*sports@yourtowncrier.com*

READING - Tucker Elliot, a renowned American sportswriter and author of sports history publications, once wrote, "Baseball really is a glorified game of throw and catch. And if you don't have guys who throw it really well, you can't compete for long."

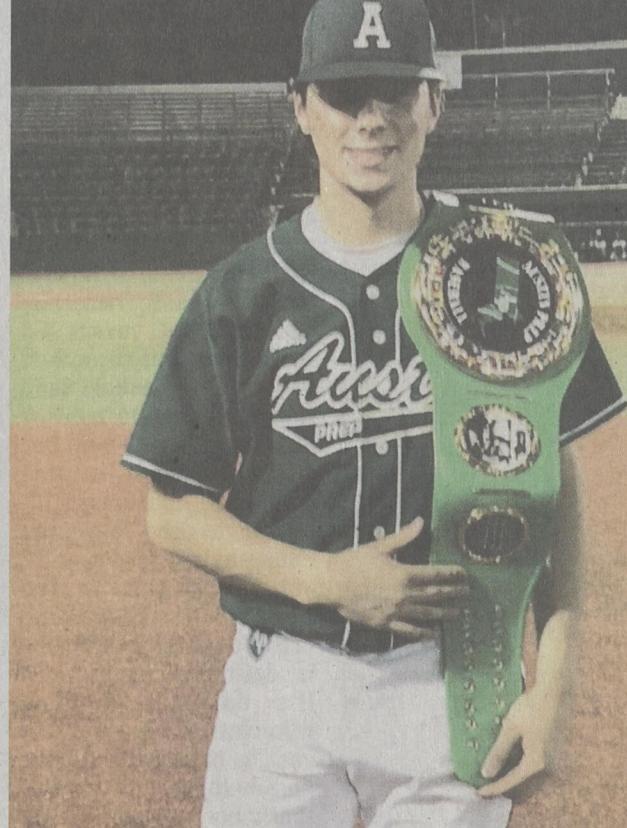
Perhaps that's the reason behind the recent success of the Austin Preparatory baseball team. This club does have a number of guys who are able to "throw it really well," including sixteen-year-old sophomore Dominic Gabardi, of Wilmington.

Gabardi is in the midst of wrapping up his third year of baseball with the AP program and if the trend continues for the remaining two seasons,

the Cougars can expect to reap the benefits of this talented two-way athlete, working as part of the pitching staff, as well as in the outfield.

The story will likely not conclude on the AP baseball diamond, however. According to Perfect Game, which touts itself as "the world's largest and most comprehensive scouting organization," Gabardi has been granted an 8.5-point grade on a scale ranging from 1-10. Under the agency's stringent ranking system, Gabardi is midway between a "potential draft pick and/or excellent college prospect" to a "potential top-10 round pick and/or highest level college prospect."

"It's an honor to be ranked at such a high level by the Perfect Game scouts," said Gabardi, who stands at 6' 2" and



tilts the scales at 195 according to the PG online bio. "Overall, I was very excited about it but I realize there is a lot more work still to be done and hopefully, I can achieve their top-ranking of 10."

The Perfect Game player profile also catalogs an impressive array of Gabardi's statistics including an 83 mile-per-hour fastball and a 7.22 60-yard dash.

As he explains it, Gabardi chose to attend AP due to their "high academic standards and prestigious baseball program." Entering the school as an eighth-grader in 2019, he honed his baseball skills with the Cougars' junior varsity program before moving up to the varsity ranks as a freshman, back in 2019. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic struck down organized sports last

spring. Mature beyond his years, Gabardi was more concerned for his older teammates than himself.

"We didn't have an opportunity to play during my freshman year," said Gabardi, who is also a member of the AP varsity soccer team and plays summer travel baseball for the Legends Select team out of Peabody. "I feel fortunate compared to some of my teammates since I only lost my freshman baseball year due to COVID where some of my teammates lost both their junior and seniors years."

Gabardi enters his first high school tournament hitting .304 with a homer, two doubles, and 11 RBI. From the hill, the right-hander maintains a 1.36 ERA and this season, has recorded a pair of wins

GABARDI B4W

Wildcats compete against the big schools, finish fourth at ML Meet

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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BURLINGTON - Dating back to when Wilmington High School Athletics competed in the Merrimack Valley Conference, the complaint was the Wildcats were just too small in numbers and couldn't compete with the big schools, who had double or triple the amount of student-athletes.

After moving to the Cape Ann League where the 'Cats were one of the bigger schools, another switch was made before the Fall of 2011 to go to the Middlesex League and again the biggest complaint is the Wildcats can't compete with the larger schools, who have double the size of student-athletes.

A case in point of going up against those bigger, powerful Middlesex League teams, mostly from the Liberty Division, came last Thursday in the league's track-and-field championship meet. Wilmington, which has the second fewest athletes of the 11-teams which competed, with Stoneham as the lowest, while Watertown didn't compete, took that notion that they couldn't compete with the top teams and threw it in the trash.

Behind two first place finishes and an overall tremendous performance from top to bottom, the 'Cats, with 877 students, finished fourth overall compiling 76.50 points, finishing behind Lexington (139), Arlington (83) and Melrose (77), who have student-bodies of 2,167, 1,259 and 948.

"We went into the meet thinking that we had an outside shot of winning it," said head coach Brian Schell. "Lexington is obviously the powerhouse of the league. I know with our field events and our sprinting events, that we had a good shot at getting those first places. You could tell that with the kids who did two or three events started to take its toll on people. Otherwise it was a great day. We had a lot of great performances, a lot of personal records and some state qualifiers."

Wilmington, which fin-

ished the season undefeated at 5-0 and won its first ever league title during the outdoor season, finished a half point from ending in a tie for third, and also finished 1.5 points ahead of Burlington, 2.5 ahead of Belmont, and then significantly ahead of Woburn, Stoneham, Wakefield, Reading and Winchester - all but the Spartans have more student-athletes to choose from.

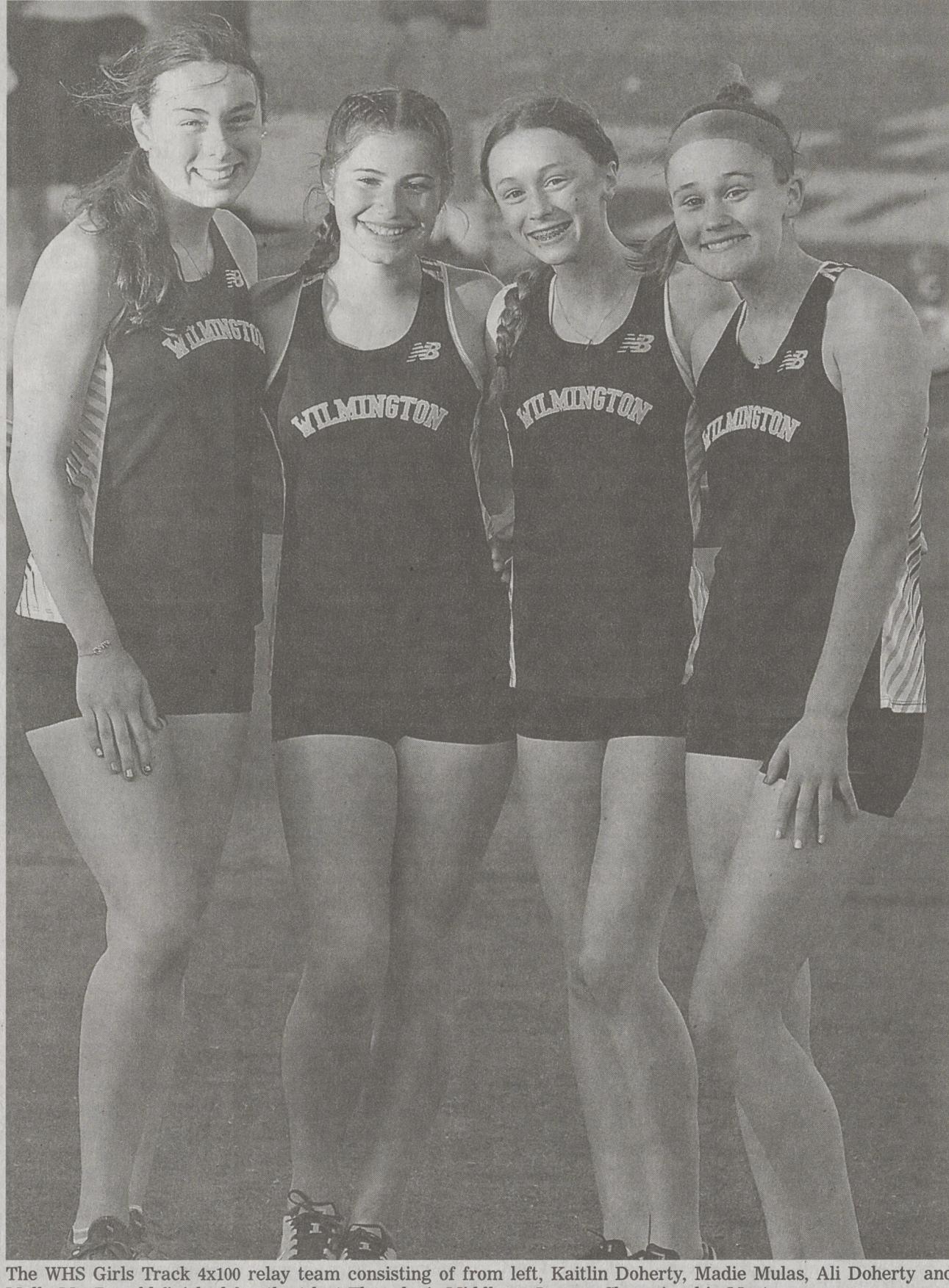
"Sarah (LaVita) missed out getting first place in the javelin by nine inches, so that could have been a couple of more points there," said Schell.

LaVita was one of the champions on the day as she won the discus throwing 105-07, while fellow junior Celia Kulis was also a winner in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.83 seconds. They became the first league champions from this program since Alexcia Luna in 2018. They now rank third and fourth all-time in program history.

In addition, LaVita was second in the javelin at 111-00 and that puts her third all-time in that event as well. She competed in the shot put and didn't place, taking 14th at 27-06.50, while Kulis also didn't score in the triple jump, taking eighth at 32-11.75 and 15th in the long jump at 15-01.

Besides the two first places, Wilmington had a pair of seconds with Amber Flynn in the discus throwing 101-04, while she was also tenth in the shot put at 28 feet. Her mark in the discus puts her fourth all-time in program history. Junior Amanda Broussard broke the school record with her 59.87 second time in the 400-meters.

"Amanda is the first person in the history of the program to break 60 seconds (in meters). Sixty seconds is that huge, huge barrier and she did it," said Schell. "It was in the Stoneham meet during the (Fall-2 season) when she approached me and said 'I really wanted to break sixty seconds so bad so what do I have to do?' I ended up getting some new ideas from different people on things she could do and came up with some different stuff so race wise nothing changed but training wise



The WHS Girls Track 4x100 relay team consisting of from left, Kaitlin Doherty, Madie Mulas, Ali Doherty and Molly MacDonald finished fourth at last Thursday's Middlesex League Championship Meet.

(courtesy photo/Susan Kulis).

we did a few things differently. We told her it's a 300-meter race and then just really dig hard in those last 100 meters.

When she passed the finish line, no one really knew if she did it and when the announcement came, we were all thrilled for her.

"She has put in some much time and hard work to do it and this was the biggest goal for her and she did it. Now she has to work on consistency and staying around that low

60 or under 60 mark."

Broussard broke the record originally set by Alex Bischoff of 60.27 seconds back in 2014.

Also having a big day was junior Kaitlyn Doherty, who placed fifth in the triple jump at 33-11.50, re-breaking her own school record, and sixth in the 100-meters at 13.30.

"Kaitlyn had a great day. In the triple jump, she made the finals, had a personal record with 13-11.50 to take fifth. She re-broke her own school record, which she got last week (at the Stoneham meet)," said Schell.

"It was a good day. In the triple jump, she made the finals, had a personal record with 13-11.50 to take fifth. She re-broke her own school record, which she got last week (at the Stoneham meet)," said Schell.

"It was a good day. In the triple jump, she made the finals, had a personal record with 13-11.50 to take fifth. She re-broke her own school record, which she got last week (at the Stoneham meet)," said Schell.

"She had a great start in the 100. She was beating everyone around the 55-meter mark and then she just tightened up a bit and you could tell everything just got to her, but at the same time, she had an overall great day.

"Hopefully this week we will work on some things before the state meet."

Wilmington had four other individuals place.

Kayla Flynn was fourth in the high jump, clearing five feet and teammate Mollie Osgood was sixth in the same event, clearing 4-10.

"Kayla jumped five feet and that's her personal record. I know all winter she was doing 4-10 and then she came here she couldn't get over 4-8 sometimes, but these last few meets she has done well, getting 4-10 against Stoneham, now 5-0 on her second attempt in this meet.

"She had been stuttering at the bar and none she's doing it without the stutter so the work she has been doing with Coach (Joe) Patrone is definitely paying off.

"His daughter Juliana, who was on the team last year, is back from college and helping out too, so that's been great.

"Shea qualified for the state meet and this was a five second personal record for her," said Schell.

"She ran very well and was just sold throughout the entire race. She was consistent. She didn't get out too strong, she paced herself well because some of the

triple and long jump. I knew that she would be a good high jumper but ideally I had Celia, Katie (McLaughlin) and Maggie (Bourgeois), who were all jumping 4-8 in dual meets, so we didn't need those potential fourth places from Mollie as a beginner. Once we put her in the high jump in the meet against Watertown, she cleared 4-10 right off the bat with no sweat. Right then we knew that she would be our primary high jumper, so we took her out of the triple jump.

"She's got a good form and you can definitely tell with her background in gymnastics and dancing that she has great form and a great approach.

Coach Patrone was saying that he's thinking about taking a longer approach with her starting next year because she doesn't have as much raw speed in the beginning so he's going to most likely work with her on that next year."

Kayla Flynn tied four others for third all-time in program history, clearing 5-0.

Sticking with the non-running events, Isabelle Puccio was sixth in the discus throwing 84-01.

"Isabelle stepped up. We knew going into the season that we would be strong in the discus and like I said last week I believe we have swept just about every meet in the discus. Her performance at this meet is a personal best, even if it's just one inch. She has been throwing very well all season," said Schell.

The last one to place in the individual events was Shea Cushing, who was fifth in the mile with a time of 5:35.10, which puts her fifth all-time in program history.

"Shea qualified for the state meet and this was a five second personal record for her," said Schell.

"She ran very well and was just sold throughout the entire race. She was consistent. She didn't get out too strong, she paced herself well because some of the

kids in that race went out really fast and were going for it and she ended up catching some of them."

Two of the team's three relay teams closed out the scoring by placing.

The 4x100 team of Madison Mulas, Alison Doherty, Osgood and Kaitlyn Doherty finished fourth at 52.52, which ranks that group fourth all-time. The 4x400 team of Emily Grace, Angie Zaykovskaya, Cushing and Broussard finished sixth at 4:23.03 and then the 4x800 team was just

missed on scoring, taking seventh with a time of 11:53.68 and that was Olivia Erler with Hannah Bryson, Sofia Pitzen and Maggie Bourgeois.

Mulas was also 11th in the 200 at 28.33, Alison Doherty was 16th in the same event at 29.43, Zaykovskaya was 13th in the 400 at 1:04.90, Erler was 15th in the two-mile at 13:13.57, Kayla Flynn was also 19th in the 100-meter hurdles at 19.67 and Osgood was 22nd in the long jump at 13-10.

Both Molly MacDonald and Katie McLaughlin competed in two events each and were just edged out on placing in one. MacDonald was ninth in the javelin at 34-07 and was 12th in the 100 at 13.75 and McLaughlin was 10th in the 400-meter hurdles at 1:14.33 and 16th in the 800 at 2:35.22.

Rounding out the competitors included Malloy Brown taking 14th in the mile at 5:55.83, Hannah Bryson finishing 14th in the two-mile at 12:56.51, Emily Doherty was 18th in the 400 at 1:23.33 and Elliana Chronopoulos was 21st in the 800 at 2:48.35.

Wilmington will compete in the newly aligned Division 2 North Divisional Meet which begins Friday with the pentathlon, before moving to the distance events, and concludes Sunday. The meet will be held at Weston High School.



During an earlier season meet, Emily Doherty throws the shot put for the Wildcats. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

Boys team was in the running for title until the end

By JAMIE POTE
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BURLINGTON

Throughout the entire day, Wilmington was right there with the large school teams Reading and Lexington, as well as Burlington, who has ruled the Middlesex League Freedom Division and the Division 3 state meets over the last decade-plus.

The Wildcats were able to hang around, hang around these teams because it kept pecking away with clutch performances and a list of personal bests that would stretch a mile long.

In the end, those bigger schools edged out the 'Cats but frankly not by much. Reading came away with 118 points to win the 11-team (Watertown didn't compete) Middlesex League Boys Outdoor Track-and-Field championship meet, followed by Lexington (111.50), Burlington (107) and Wilmington (103). Wakefield, Woburn, Belmont, Winchester, Arlington, Melrose and Stoneham finished fifth through eleventh.

"It was just crazy between the kids, the times and there were so many personal bests. The quality of the athletes from this meet, especially coming from Lexington, Reading and Woburn and those schools, are just really good," said head coach Mike Kinney. "We almost beat Lexington. It came down to the final events and we thought we had a chance."

In terms of scoring (first through sixth), Wilmington had a first place, five 2nd places, six 3rd places, a fifth and four 6th places to account for the scoring.

"We were in second or third throughout the whole meet, so we were just looking for a couple of edges," said Kinney. "We can go back and look at a couple of events and there were some two point swings and we would have beat Burlington. There were a couple of things that we could have improved on, but there were so many unexpected performances, so we are just absolutely thrilled with how the overall team did."

Junior Jeandre Abel was the lone champion (see related story) as he took the 100-meters with a time of 11.43 seconds. That now ranks him fifth all-time in program history (in meters).

Abel was also a part of the second place 4x100 relay team, along with Isaac Avila, Willie Stuart and Nehemiah Camara, who had a combined time of 45.12 seconds and that is now sixth all-time in program history.

"They were second and I think it was two tenths of



The Wilmington High School Boys Track-and-Field team finished fourth at last Thursday's Middlesex League Championship Meet. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

a second off than Lexington," said Kinney. "If Jeandre had ten more yards, he would have passed their kid and he almost did at the end. Their time should be ranked either second or third in the divisional meet."

Abel closed out his day with a tenth place in the high jump, clearing 5-6. Stuart grabbed his share of points also taking second in the triple jump (41-08.75) and sixth in the 200 (24.05). His mark in the triple jump now ranks him sixth all-time in program history.

Avila also placed second in the javelin (142-00) and third in the long jump (20-04.50), while Camara was sixth in the 110-meter hurdles at 17.30 seconds.

Wilmington got a huge boost from junior John Ware. In his final event, the 4x400 relay, he had a solid split of 56 seconds, joining Evan Shackelford (55.9), Noah Carriere (57) and Aidan McGrath (53) to take sixth with a combined time of 3:42.35. That came after Ware took third in both the 400-meter hurdles (1:01.61) and javelin (137-00), certainly a busy and challenging afternoon.

"He was going to play baseball this year. He played baseball throughout high school so we really tried to encourage him to do track," explained the coach. "He just has a lot of raw talent there. He's just a super-tough kid, who will do anything you ask. He will run through a wall for you and he just has such an awesome attitude. He keeps improving in the 400-meter hurdles and that was a super tough race. In the javelin, he also keeps getting better and better. He's tall, he's like 6-feet-4 inches. He just keeps getting faster and he's only a junior. He should do well at the state meet."

As expected, senior Sam Juergens came through with his performances, taking third in the triple jump (41-07.50), sixth in the high jump (5-8) and he was also tenth in the

110-meter hurdles (17.41).

"Sam had a huge personal record in the triple jump with his 41-foot jump and so did Willie (Stuart), so we got 14 points out of the triple jump and we also got 14 points from the javelin," said Kinney.

After those performances, Wilmington got outstanding ones from a core group of guys, who are the veterans of the team with McGrath, Sean Riley, Pat O'Mahony, Owen Surette and Sean Lydon. McGrath was part of that relay team, but also picked up a fourth in the 400 at 52.81.

Like McGrath, the foursome of O'Mahony, Surette, Riley and Lydon combined to finish the 4x800 relay race in second place with a combined time of 8:30.61.

"That event was tough because each of them had already run their individual event. They probably could have run a little faster, but they were just holding on to their place," said Kinney.

Those four guys combined for two other place finishes, competing in five other events. Surette was third in the mile (4:32.75) and eighth in the javelin (126-11).

Owen ran the second best outdoor mile in program history. Chris Murray has the top mark of 4:27.5 (back in 2005). Owen ran a 4:32 and looking at the entries going to the divisional meet, he should be ranked number one, or near the top once all of the entries are in. His best time before this was 4:45, and for him all he needed was some competition. He was in a pack of a bunch of Lexington kids, there was like five Lexington kids all under 4:35, but Owen just had just share determination at the end and he's just a super tough kid.

That came after Ware took third in both the 400-meter hurdles (1:01.61) and javelin (137-00), certainly a busy and challenging afternoon.

"He just has a lot of raw talent there. He's just a super-tough kid, who will do anything you ask. He will run through a wall for you and he just has such an awesome attitude. He keeps improving in the 400-meter hurdles and that was a super tough race. In the javelin, he also keeps getting better and better. He's tall, he's like 6-feet-4 inches. He just keeps getting faster and he's only a junior. He should do well at the state meet."

Riley placed third in the 800 with a time of 1:57.95, which puts him near the top of all-time as well.

"Riley ran the third best time in school history in the 800 meters and he could possibly pass Greg Young's school record of 1:55.5," said Kinney. "Sean ran 1:57 and in my twenty years here, I have only seen two kids, besides Sean, break two minutes and that was Mike Condel (at 12:57.58 in 2008) and Steve Halas (at 1:59.73 in 2013). Greg's time was 1:55 and he did that in meters when he went to the Nationals."

Lydon was also 10th in the mile at 4:43.62 as was O'Mahony but in the 800 with a time of 2:05.18.

The last place finisher was Colton Sullivan, who was second in the pole vault, clearing 9-0. He was also 19th in the 100 at 12.68 seconds.

"Pole vault only had five competitors so basically had to clear and you would place," said Kinney. "Colton's personal best is 9-6, so the state meet will be more challenging. He's putting in a lot of work in the Patriot



Owen Surette, shown here during an earlier season meet, now owns the third best mile time in the history of WHS Boys Track -- since the conversion of meters.

(photo by Bob DeChiara).

Pole Vault Club. He's sort of been the leader for us in that event, and he's been leading a group of younger kids and now they are clearing better heights."

Two other athletes competed in two events each with Nate Rebinskas taking 11th in the long jump (18-02.25) and 16th in the 200 (25.70) and Chris Wong, who was 13th in the 400-meter hurdles (1:05.13) and then was 17th in the 400 (1:01.34).

Owen Mitchell and Alex Paquet finished 17th and 18th in the two-mile with times of 11:46.16 and 11:47.80. Then in the throwing events, Tyler Sheehan (94-08) and Bradon Huddleston (92-00) finished 13th and 14th and John Spencer (32-00) and Lucas Gorham (31-02) were 18th and 19th in the shot put.

Overall, just a tremendous day from entire team.

"I've never seen us score that many points. In the twenty years that I have been here, we won the (Class C Divisional Meet) back in 2008 and I think this team is

arguably better. If everyone rises to the occasion at the state meet, I think we can win. It's going to be Burlington and Tewksbury, but really the object for us is to beat Burlington," said Kinney.

Due to COVID-19, the divisional meet is now just Division 2 North as opposed to Division 3 Eastern Mass. The meet will start on Friday afternoon at Weston High School with the pentathlon starting at 1, followed by the pole vault

and javelin, and then distance events in the early evening. The meet will conclude on Sunday.

TEAM DECAHTLON

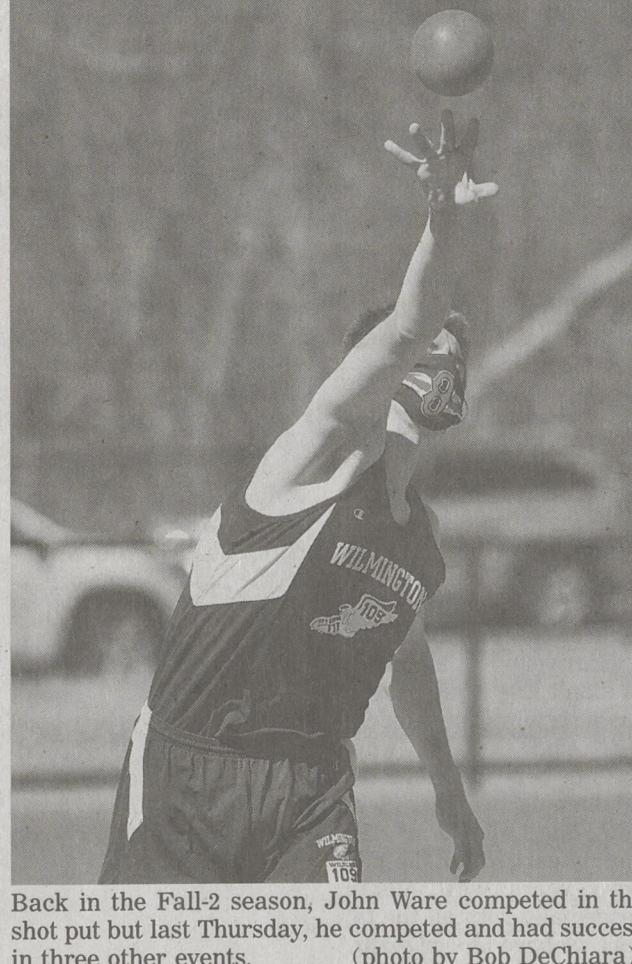
With the regular season having come to an end, the Wilmington High Boys Track team held a unique and fun event at Wilmington High on Monday and Tuesday for members of the boys team that did not qualify for the state meet.

Thirteen members of the Wildcats squad competed, with one of their youngest members, freshman Ben Marvin winning

the overall event with 3291 points. Marvin was followed by Charlie Rosa with 3276, points, Aidan Burke at 3264, Cooper Loisel at 2991 and Owen Mitchell at 2990 to round out the top five.

Other competitors included Jon Magliozzi (2951), Alex Paquet (2384), Nick Atwater (2349), Hunter Sands (2326), Roman Moretti (2098), Liam Lydon (1540), Aryan Patil (1519) and Brayden Gorksi (912).

Winners of each individual event included Jon Magliozzi in the 100 meters (12.6) and the long jump (17'01.5), Liam Lydon in the shot put (28'02.5") and the discus (76'05"), Ben Marvin in the high jump (5'00") and the triple jump (35'07.5"), Owen Mitchell (62.2) and the 1500 meters (5:05.6), Charlie Rosa in the 110 hurdles (20.6) and Cooper Loisel in the javelin.



Back in the Fall-2 season, John Ware competed in the shot put but last Thursday, he competed and had success in three other events.

(photo by Bob DeChiara).

Kulis jumps over obstacles, takes 100-meter hurdle title

FROM B1W



Last Thursday at the Middlesex League Championship Track Meet, these four WHS athletes all had big performances. From left, Sarah LaVita (discus champion, second in the javelin), Amanda Broussard (second in 400, broke school record), Kaitlyn Doherty (fifth in triple jump, sixth in 100, part of fourth place 4x100 relay team) and Celia Kulis (first in 100-meter hurdles). (courtesy photo/Susan Kulis).

LaVita is No. 1 in discus, throws over 100-feet

FROM B1W

placed her eighth at the All-State Meet from the 2019 meet. It also puts her third all-time in program history -- while her javelin toss now also ranks third all-time.

And if you ask her, she's still just a rookie in the event.

"I'm still in the beginner, basic (stage). Amber (Flynn) does this incredible full throw and I just kind of stand there and swing. It's not up there yet, as I definitely have work to do, but is has been getting better," she said.

Heading into the meet, LaVita said that she expected Flynn to lead the way.

"On paper, I think I was second so I knew that Amber (Flynn) was going to be big competition, so my thoughts going in was just to try to keep up with Amber. I didn't really expect to win, that was a nice surprise. It was definitely really cool," she said.

Two weeks ago, it was LaVita, Flynn and Isabelle Puccio who combined to win the Division 3 state relay meet in the discus event. That day, the weather was horrendous, cold, raw and raining and Sarah was able to unleash a throw of 86-08. Two weeks later, that mark jumped a lot - to 105-07.

"The relays were definitely tough, but I think it did help," she said, while later noting that her father, Jason had throws of over 50 feet in the shot put during his days at Reading High. "I think it's more about that I have really long arms. That definitely helps. Coach (Don) Wilson says it's the long arms, the height and the extensions really gets you going."

"I would not be able to throw the discus without

Coach Wilson. It's so incredible to see the process of where you started, not being able to get it to spin properly to now throwing 105 feet is just crazy."

So where did the 105 feet come from?

"I don't know. I have never done it before, not even in practice," she said.

She came close to it during the preliminaries on Thursday, throwing 104 feet which easily put her into the finals. She said it was on her last attempt where she unleashed the personal best, the 105-07.

"You can tell and they had lines on the field and they weren't marked correctly so you were trying to guess how far it would go but you could tell that it was out there. When (the meet official) said the number, that was just a really cool moment," she said. "My parents were there, my grandmother came over and congratulated me, so it was pretty cool."

The first place title ended a very busy day for her, competing in three field events and jumping from one to the next is not easy.

"Sarah is another member of the team who has shown great versatility, this time in all three throwing events," said head coach Brian Schell. "She has been a huge asset and has been able to maneuver around in any of them which we needed."

"She is at state caliber level in each one, so you know you can rely on her to give her best. She has progressed well in all three this season especially in the discus and javelin. I'm happy for her taking second in the javelin and with a big personal record. Despite missing first place by nine inches, she used that

aggression and won the discus.

"That's another event she has been phenomenal at and clearly picked it up fast this season. To finish with over a ten-foot personal record mark to win the meet is huge. And credit goes out to her work ethic and Coach Wilson for everything he has been doing with all of our throwers."

Now with this championship title in her back pocket, or technically a trophy in her bedroom, LaVita was asked about heading into this weekend's newly aligned Division 2 North Meet.

"It's definitely a big confidence boost for states because I was worried about being that one kid who couldn't do one full throw. The confidence boost of being able to break 100 feet without spinning does help. I feel like going into states, I'm definitely more mentally prepared than I was before this league meet," she said.

Sarah will become the second LaVita to compete in the state meet, following her sister Hannah, who was an outstanding high jumper and now on the Springfield College team.

"We were always a little different but I joined track because I really wanted to compete with her and not against her for once. It was cool to come out (in 2019) and be able to do everything with her, and now being able to match her. I mean obviously, it's not the same events, but she would jump high and I would throw far and then we would go out and get some chicken afterwards," said Sarah with a laugh.

must have felt like jelly, since throughout the entire day she went from six jumps in the triple jump, to the preliminary heat of the hurdles, to three jumps in the long jump and then for the finals of the hurdles, where she set a new school record (as the 100 meters was recently changed from the 110-meter hurdles).

"My time of 16.33 in the preliminaries (of the hurdles) wasn't my fastest time at all. I was definitely busy with the other events. I had to go back and forth to long jump so it was stressing me out a little bit. But winning the (preliminary) heat, just gives you a boost going into the finals," she said.

Besides trying to save a little bit extra for the finals, Kulis said part of the reason she took second in the preliminary race is because she got off to a slow start.

"My blocks were too far back so it was hard to get out of the blocks quickly, so I moved them up for the finals and that's how I got out really quick," she said. "If your blocks are off, it's harder to get your driving phase out and it sets you back a little bit. When I pushed them up closer, my drive phase was normal so I could actually get my

quick feet going."

Head coach Brian Schell said that inbetween the hurdles, triple jump and long jump, Celia spent a few minutes working on a plan for getting off to a stronger start.

"In the trials, she didn't get out that fast. I told her going into the finals that we had to be better with her start but in this case she had to do some long jumping inbetween so she was tired," said Schell. "Right off the gun (in the finals) she had the best reaction from the gun, and she was perfect over the hurdles all the way through."

When the finals came, tired an all, Kulis said that she knew that Woburn's Cyndea Labissiere -- who was seeded first and beat out her out in the preliminaries -- would be her toughest competition.

That certainly was true, but really for Kulis it was just letting her talent, ability and athleticism take over.

"When Celia first joined us during her freshman year of indoor track, she picked up the hurdles within the first week, and being able to three-step," said Schell. "I could already tell that she had great speed and power just from her jumping as well. She's just a great

overall versatile athlete.

"I think we're going to have her do the pentathlon at the state meet. She has the versatility so she can jump, she can run, she can throw if we needed her too, but overall she's just a really good athlete."

The really good athlete is now really good in the hurdles -- the best in the league to be exact.

"I was pushing myself so hard all day and I was definitely stressing out about it during school. I was happy to (win) but I think my mom was definitely more happy about it. My family were the ones who were chanting the most," she said with a laugh. "It was just a surreal moment."

On the day, Kulis -- who is also pretty impressive with the field hockey stick -- was first in the hurdles, eighth in the triple jump (32-11.75) and 15th in the long jump (15-01). Certainly a long and successful day, but now she will have a few days to rest up before this Thursday's Division 2 North sectional meet.

"My goal is to break the (15.83) time and I would like to running the lower 15's, but really I just want to push myself to do the best that I can and possibly get new records," she said.



Wilmington High junior Jeandre Abel during the middle of his 100-meter race last Thursday. (courtesy photo/Susan Kulis).

A different sport provides big success for Jeandre Abel

FROM B1W

I won my heat at 11.57 (seconds). I felt like I could have run faster because basically I was running against myself. So when I saw (Reading's Michael Harden) was in front of me, as I was in second and he was in first, he ended up with 11.53 (second time), I knew that I could beat him if he was going to be in my heat," he said.

And that's exactly what the doctor ordered - a win.

"In the finals, (Harden) was lane four and I was lane five, and I was getting to the blocks and a bunch of thoughts were just rushing through my head - just a bunch of things," he admitted. "Sometimes I think a lot and really overthink, but (in the blocks) the last thought I had was 'I don't want to lose'. I got into the

blocks and felt calm again and I had a really good block start, which never happens for me. I usually start in last and end in first. I was in first place for over half of the race, which is really rare for me, so I had a really good (performance)."

He did, including chopping his time down to 11.43 seconds, while also beating Harden, who finished at 11.46 seconds.

"I didn't really process it until I got home because it was just surreal. I always felt like I was good at track, but (winning) just felt so surreal. When you are good at something, you want to go far with it, but you don't actually expect to, I guess so when you do, it's like 'wow this is happening'. That was nice," he said, while not-

ing he has an older sister Aaliyah, a senior, who was a sprinter on the girls team two years ago, and now will go on to Tufts University.

This upcoming weekend, Abel wants to continue that success at the newly aligned Division 2 North sectional meet, which begins on Friday and ends on Sunday.

"I want to get first. I find that I try to get first more than I try to improve my time. It's just a mindset for something," he said.

No matter if he takes first or last this upcoming weekend, Jeandre made history this past Thursday with his first place finish and he knows that he can't thank his mother for being a big reason for the success.

On the diamond, Gabardi excelling at Austin Prep

FROM B1W

and a noteworthy save while facing nemesis St. Mary's.

"That save certainly ranks as one of my best baseball moments," said Gabardi. "I pitched five shutout innings in a game against St. Mary's of Lynn which helped our team to a huge extra-inning win.

Another memorable moment was my first-ever varsity hit, which was a three-run homer."

Gabardi came up through the baseball ranks in typical fashion, perfecting his trade first with the Wilmington Little

League system and later, in assorted youth programs. He was a member of the Wilmington 11U championship team and claimed MVP honors during an International Tournament contested in Europe.

When asked to name influential coaches and mentors, Gabardi acknowledged his father Steven, a former Butler College soccer player, who also guided Dom's fourteen-year-old sibling, Luca.

Dan Wilmington's

Ardito,

Little

League District coach, earned Gabardi's admiration for "teaching me the right way to play the game of baseball," and of course, his current coach, Jonathan Pollard, is held in high regard.

"Coach Pollard has improved my game mentally and physically through a focus on fundamentals and teamwork," said Gabardi.

"Dom is tremendously important to us," said Coach Pollard, who recently led his top-seed 16-1 team in a CCL Cup win over Archbishop

Williams in which Gabardi contributed an inning in relief. "We've handed the ball to him in a number of situations when it was win-time and he did a great job for us out of the pen. He's always a really good at bat, gets deep in the count, has power potential, and he is overall, an exceptional player."

While still too young to seriously consider college possibilities, Gabardi has his sights set on a well-respected Division 1 program with strong academics and has considered fol-

lowing in the healthcare career footsteps of parents, Steven and Betsy. In the meantime, he'll continue to perfect his craft and make his presence felt in Massachusetts high school baseball circles.

"I'm very fortunate that I didn't lose a major year as a result of the pandemic," said Gabardi, when asked how he views his remaining two years with AP baseball. "I'm definitely excited for the next two years with Austin, especially with all the talent we have on our team."

"Dom is one of the top

underclassmen in the State," said Coach Pollard. "When his time comes, we have full confidence that he will be one of the top upperclassmen, as well. The best part of Dom is he's a good, young man from a good family."

"Sometimes, I don't think he realizes how good he is. When he does finally figure out how good he is, that's when his game will go to a completely different level."

Wilmington defeated twice in ML Tournament, preparing for States

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent
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WILMINGTON - After steamrolling through most of their regular season opponents on their way to a perfect 10-0 record, the Wilmington High Boys Tennis team got their first taste of post season play this past week, competing in the Middlesex League Tournament, while at the same time, they prepared themselves to compete in the first round of this week's MIAA Tournament.

As for the Middlesex League Tournament, it was a case of good news and bad news for the Wildcats. The team first dropped a pair of 3-2 decisions, first losing last Thursday in the first round of the tournament on the road against Arlington of the Middlesex Liberty Division, and following that up with a loss by the same score to Wakefield on Saturday at home.

The good news for the Wildcats is that despite the loss to Arlington, they proved that they could certainly compete with the teams from the Liberty Division, as they had a very good opportunity to actually win this match.

On the other hand, the bad news was that against Wakefield, a team the Wildcats had swept during the regular season by score 5-0 and 3-2, they also discovered there is some work to be done before they can plan on advancing very far in the state tournament.

The week started with the loss to a talented Arlington squad. The Spy Ponders had finished just 4-6 on the regular season, but their record did not

tell the entire story.

"They were 4-6, but they are still a very good team, and we knew that going in," Wilmington coach Rob Mailey said. "We didn't play badly at all against them, but I think our guys may have had a bit of a letdown in their first match after completing their undefeated season."

Junior co-captain Anay Gandhi continued his individual undefeated season against Arlington with a 6-4, 7-5 win at first singles, while freshman Anuj Gandhi lost his first match of the season at second singles 6-1, 6-4, despite competing at a very high level.

Senior co-captain Colby Scaplen extended his hot streak, winning his ninth match in a row, with a workmanlike 6-3, 6-4 victory over a very steady opponent in third singles.

Unfortunately for the Wildcats, the first doubles duo of Eric Packer and Sidd Karani went down 6-4, 6-3 despite putting up quite a battle against a pair of talented foes.

"That match was simply that we lost some big points that did not go our way," Mailey said.

The second doubles pairing for the Wildcats was senior Hayden Kane and freshman Sarthak Tripathi, who dropped a straight set decision to an overpowering pair of opponents.

In Saturday's consolation bracket match against Wakefield, the Wildcats suffered a tough 3-2 loss. Making the loss tougher to take for the Wildcats was that each of their losses on the day came in three sets after winning the first set in each match. Anay Gandhi started well, taking the first set 6-1 only to go

down 6-4, 6-3 for his only loss of the season.

This was a combination of Anay not having his best day while his opponent made very few unforced errors," Mailey said.

Anuj Gandhi also won the first set 7-5, but ended up on the short end 6-3, 6-2 against a very steady opponent, while Eric Packer and Sidd Karani also won the first set 6-4 and went down 7-5, 6-2 in first doubles.

The Wildcats second doubles team of Ryan Weinstein and Michael Smaroff had an impressive 6-0, 6-4 victory playing very well late in both sets.

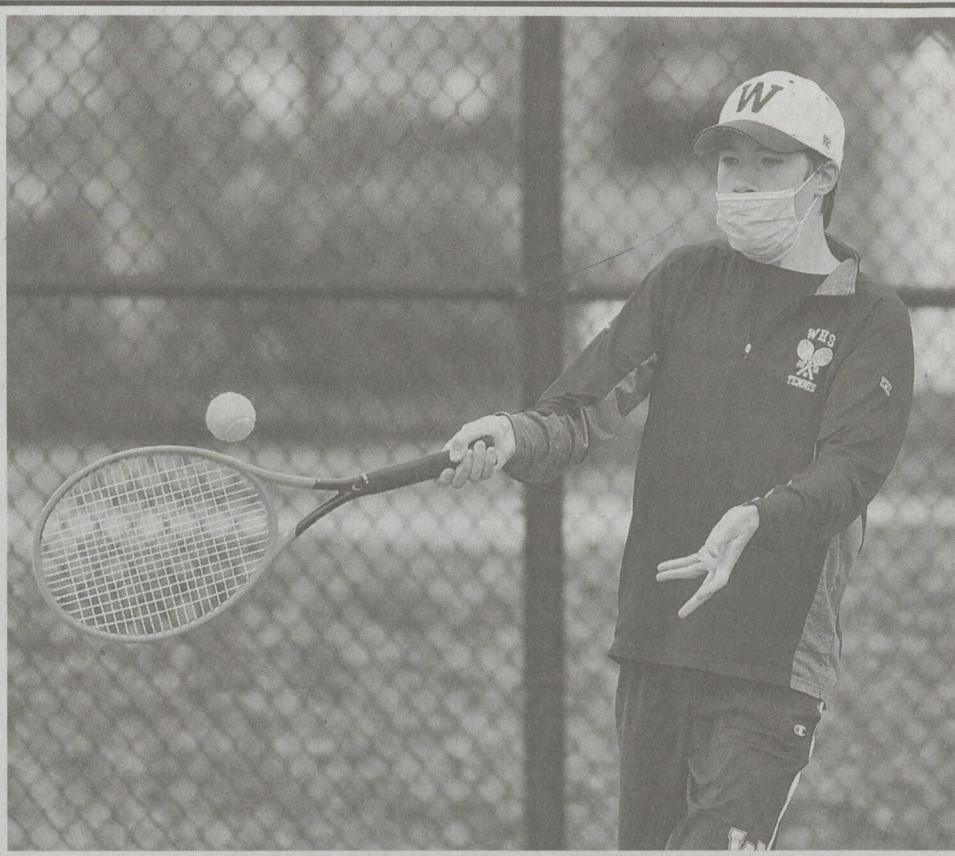
"When they went out there, the match as still on the line and they went out and played very well," Mailey said. "Wakefield played them very tough in the second set, but they responded well and got the win."

As for the match overall, Mailey felt like his team had a great opportunity to beat Wakefield for the third time this season.

"This was really one where we let slip away," Mailey said. "Their number one player was injured and that news got to our players, so I think we may have been a little overconfident. I kind of wish we didn't know that."

"I can't remember another time in my coaching career where we won all five first sets and lost.

I told the kids I take some of the responsibility for that as well, because I also may have been a little overconfident. But you have to give Wakefield credit. They went out and got it done. Maybe they wanted it more than we did. Maybe this will be a good lesson for us going into the state tourna-



Above, Wilmington High's Eric Packer returns a volley and below Anuj Gandhi does the same for the Boys Tennis team during an earlier season home match.

(photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).



ment."

Speaking of the state tournament, at the time Mailey spoke to the Town Crier, he did not know who their opponent would be in the upcoming Division 3 North Sectional Tournament, but regard-

less of the opponent, he was confident his team could do well if they play up to their abilities.

"From what I have seen, they are all teams we should be able to compete pretty well with," Mailey said. "But we have to play

well. In practice today we talked about not getting overconfident if we win the first set. So, hopefully we learned some lessons this week that will help us in the tournament and we can do well."

Girls Tennis team closes out season in Middlesex League tournament

By MIKE IPPOLITO
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WILMINGTON - With back-to-back losses in the Middlesex League Tournament this past week, the Wilmington High Girls Tennis team closed out their season

with a 1-11 record.

After suffering a 5-0 loss at the hands of a powerful Reading squad last Thursday in the opening round of the tournament, the Wildcats put up quite a battle on Friday against Woburn, before ultimately falling by a score of 3-2 in

a hard fought, back and forth affair.

"We were very close against Woburn. It was a very close, winnable match, which I had a feeling it would be, because we have been very competitive with them over the years," Wilmington coach Matt Hackett said.

"We would have loved to have pulled it out, but unfortunately, you can't always have your best day. Although some of our players actually did play very well."

Among the players who had big days for the Wildcats, none were better than senior Lauren D'Arco in first singles, who came away with a 7-6 (8-6), 2-6, 6-3, battling back from a tough second set to take the win and improve to 5-7 on the season as an individual.

"Not only was her match the highlight of the day, but it was her best match of the season," Hackett said. "They both played great in the first set, and then her opponent got the better of her in the second set. And then Lauren went an closed out her last match as a senior with a great winner in the third set. Her opponent came to the net, and she just sent the ball screaming past her. It was a great exclamation point to her career."

In first doubles senior Johanna Robinson and junior Alyssa Fricia pulled out a 6-7 (6-3), 6-1, 6-1 victory. After struggling in the first set, the duo found their game, and dominated from that point on.

"The two of them have such a great attitude, and are so mentally tough," Hackett said. "They like to hear it how it is. They are not afraid of criticism. I went over to them between sets and just said what's going on? If you play your game you can win. They played at

another level for the rest of the match. And they did it their way, playing at the net. That's how they won. They just went back to basics, and they were the better team throughout the match."

The Wildcats nearly got a win in second doubles as well, with the freshmen duo of Maddie Benoit and Sophia LaVita battling hard, before falling by a score of 7-6 (7-5), 7-5.

"They were very, very close. It really could have gone either way," Hackett said. "It was a good matchup with their opponents. They had similar styles of play. They lost, but they have nothing to hang their heads about. For a couple of freshmen, they did a really good job. They did a really good job and they gained a lot of experience in their first year. They work well together, and they know each other very well."

The Woburn match marked the end of the careers of Wilmington seniors Lauren D'Arco, Vidhi Shah, who played second singles, and Johanna Robinson.

Hackett knows that this group of seniors will be

hard to replace, starting with D'Arco at first singles.

"Lauren brought what I call grit to the team, that desire to always want to win. Anything less than a win was unacceptable to her," Hackett said.

"And she didn't always win, but she was always going for it. Her first three years with us she sacrificed by playing doubles, because that is what was best for

the team because we were

so loaded at singles. But

this year, she moved up to

first singles, and going 5-7

in this league at first sin-

gles is pretty good. She

deserves a lot of credit for

doing so well."

Shah had a bit of a more difficult time finding the

win column, but Hackett

is also

excited to see what his returning players like junior Alyssa Fricia and sophomore Carolyn Hass-Timm.

"Alyssa could be at the top of our lineup next year, and she could also develop into a great leader," Hackett said.

"And Carolyn is just going to keep getting better. We threw a lot at her as a first-year player. She struggled a little bit out of the gate, but she improved literally in every match. The player she is now is night and day from the player she was at the start of the year. We have really high hopes for her for the next couple of years with the team."

With those players returning and several others with the JV squad looking ready to challenge for varsity spots, Hackett is looking forward to seeing how much his team can improve next season.

"I always feel good looking forward, because it means more opportunities for more players," Hackett said. "That is always exciting to see."

On the other hand, however, Hackett knows that he is saying goodbye to a special group of players. While they may not have done as much winning as they would have liked this season, the positive attitude they brought to the team every day made this a special season.

"That means everything," Hackett said. "It is a varsity sport, so winning is the objective and it is the goal, but sometimes you would rather have a great group of kids than a winning team, and this was that kind of group. You want to win, but at the end of the day, you want the kids to be committed to the team and to each other and to have some fun. It makes all the difference in the world."



Second Singles player Vidhi Shah plays a forehand shot for the Wildcats during an earlier season home match.

(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com)

Both Lacrosse teams opened ML Tourney against powerful Reading teams

By STEPHEN TOBEY
Daily Times Chronicle

READING -- On Thursday, the Wilmington High School boys lacrosse team began the Middlesex League tournament with a 15-3 loss to Liberty Division champion Reading.

Wilmington found itself down early 8-1 after the first quarter. Matthew Pendenza put the Wildcats on the board with a man-up goal with 3:37 left in the first.

After the Rockets (11-0) shut out Wilmington in the second and third quarters, expanding their lead to 15-1 early in the fourth quarter, Wilmington's Gavin Erickson scored the final two goals of the game with 6:10 and 3:22 left.

"We got a few late," said Wilmington coach Jeff Keefe. "We were able to show our offensive sets, but we got into a hole early."

John Rhind, who assisted on Pendenza's goal, also assisted on Erickson's second goal.

"We wanted to do the best we can. We can only control what we do," said Keefe. "We made them work. We made them take the extra pass and make them earn their goals. They had no easy dodges. Our guys were executing their slide packages as well as they could. They're just a strong team. They execute well. They're good athletes and they're well-coached."

Said Reading coach Charlie Hardy, "They were better than the score showed. It just shows the strength of the league. It was a matter of we have more experience."

Officially, this is Keefe's second year with the Wildcats. He accepted the position before the 2020 season, which was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This is his first season on the sidelines with Wilmington.

"We've improved a lot," he said. "We have guys gaining a deeper understanding of the game and

learning new roles and playing as a team both offensively and defensively. Offensively, we're showing more confidence with the ball. Games like this can only help us get better."

Colby Goodchild scored twice in the second quarter, while Jack Kenyon and Robbie Granara also scored to build Reading's halftime lead to 12-1.

"We moved the ball well," Hardy said. "We were patient."

Mickey Palermo and Ethan Haggerty scored in the third quarter and Jake Goodman scored the Rockets' final goal with 11:25 remaining in the fourth.

Finn Granara played the first three quarters in goal for the Rockets, making five saves. Sam Guiliotti played the fourth quarter, stopping one shot.

Owen White made ten saves for the Wildcats.

GIRLS

On Thursday, the Wilmington High girls lacrosse team opened the Middlesex League tournament with a 17-3 loss to Reading, the Liberty Division champion.

"I was very pleased with how we played," said Wilmington coach Bill Manchester. "They're one of the top teams in the state. We wanted to see how much we had improved and we've improved a lot."

Reading entered the game with a 9-1 record. Its only loss was in its last regular-season game, a 10-9 setback against Lexington. The Rockets and the Minutemen met again in the league tournament finals on Monday after Reading defeated Winchester, 13-10 on Saturday.

The Wildcats got on the board midway through the first half when Ida Bishop came up with a steal in the defensive end and went the length of the field before putting the ball in the net, cutting Reading's lead to 2-1.

"It was 2-1," Manchester said. "That helped us a little. We just need to get a little more confidence on offense."

After Bishop's goal, Reading finished the quarter with six straight goals and added five more before halftime to make it, 13-1.

"They move the ball so well," Manchester said. "They pass the ball very well and very quickly. Our defense had to play as fast as they have played all year."

The Rockets scored three more in the third quarter, expanding their lead to 16-1. With 2:03 left in the quarter, the Wildcats ended their scoring drought when Jenna Moore scored after a restart.

In the fourth quarter, Kylie DuCharme added a goal on a free position with 2:03 remaining.

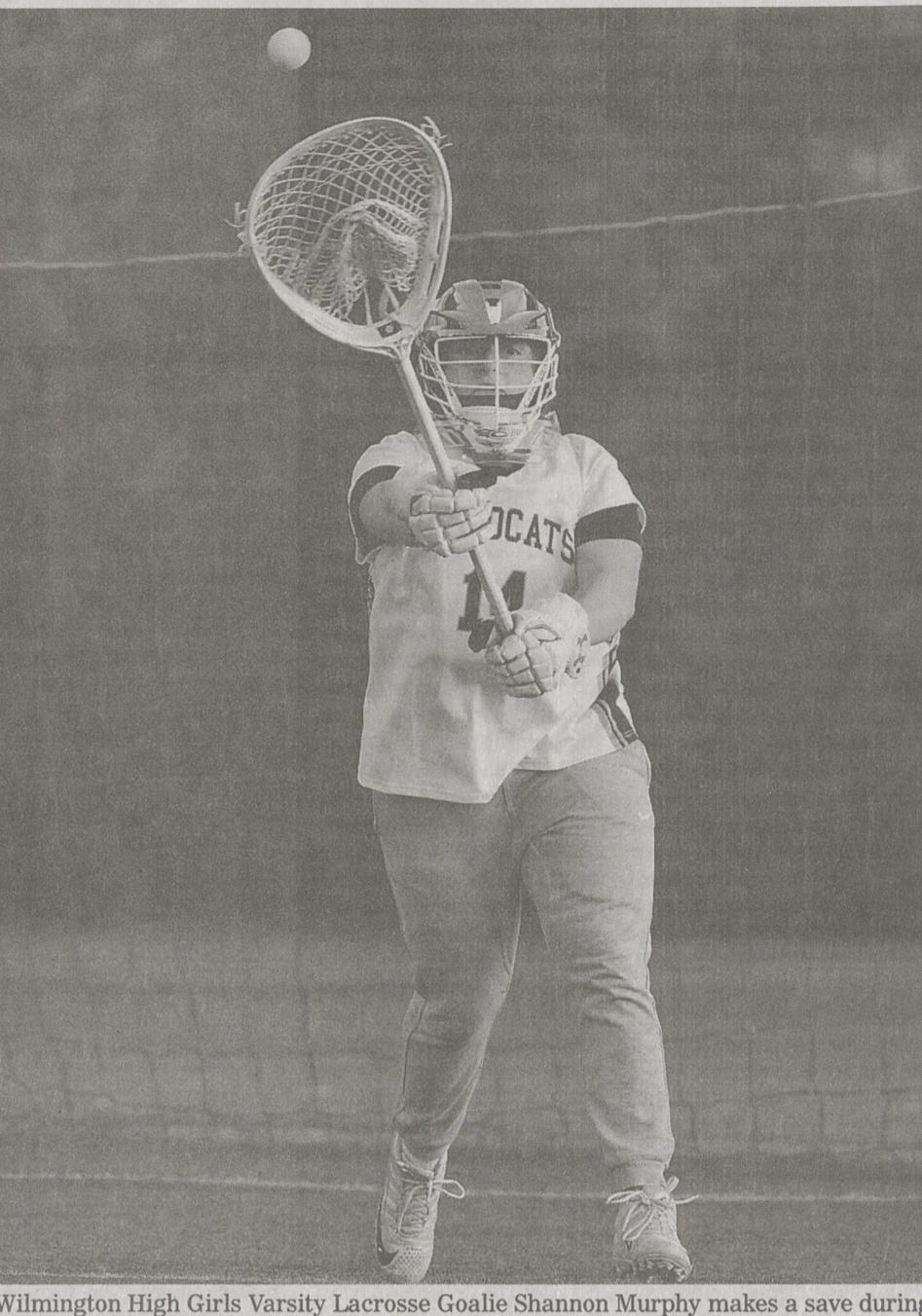
Shannon Murphy made eight saves for the Wildcats.

On Saturday morning the Wildcats hit the road to take on Melrose in the consolation bracket of the Middlesex League Tournament. Wilmington had faced Melrose twice before during the season, falling by scores of 10-4 and 11-1. But this time they gave the Red Raiders all they could handle before falling by a score of 7-6 when Melrose scored the game winning goal with just under five minutes left in the contest.

With the loss, the Wildcats saw their record on the season drop to 4-8.

The game was even throughout, with the score tied 1-1 at the end of the first quarter, 2-2 at the half and 4-4 at the end of three quarters. The score was still tied at 6-6 late in the contest when Melrose potted the game winner.

Senior Kylie DuCharme led the offensive charge for the Wildcats with two goals, while fellow senior Ida Bishop added one goal, as did sophomores Jess Collins and Sloane McIntyre and junior



Wilmington High Girls Varsity Lacrosse Goalie Shannon Murphy makes a save during an earlier season game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

'Cats close out huge second half of season

By MIKE IPPOLITO

Sports Correspondent

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with a big save to preserve the victory.

"We had talked to Owen before the game and just reminded him that he has already seen the best of the best this season and that if he plays his game, he should be able to stop most of what he faces without too much trouble," Keefe said. "And he did a great job all game. If he doesn't make some of the saves he made, then it is a much different game."

While the game simply marked the end of the season for most of the Wildcats, it marked the end of the careers for the Wildcats three seniors, Matthew Pendenza, Shane Roberts and Patrick Xavier.

"Matt brought some great toughness to the team all season long, and he brings a lot of enjoyment to the game. The other kids always appreciated the positive attitude that he brought to the team," Keefe said. "We asked Shane to do a lot for us position wise and whatever we asked, he would learn on the fly and always do a great job for us. He was a midfielder, but he would set up our offense and also move back to defense to help out when we were down a man. He filled just about every role you could think of for us."

Keefe had equally high words of praise for Xavier, who was a key defender for the Wildcats this season.

"Pat was so solid for us back on defense, not only with his play, but with his emotional demeanor," Keefe said. "He didn't talk a lot, but when he did it was very meaningful to the coaches and his teammates. His leadership will be hard to replace."

But while they will lose those three key players, they will bring back a very strong core group next season, including not only White in net, along with Alberti, Erickson, sophomore Michael Lawler, junior John Rhind and many others.

"I am definitely encouraged by the talent we are bringing back, but I am even more encouraged with the way our kids bought into the system," Keefe said. "We know nothing will be given to us, and that we have to continue to improve but we also know that if we put in the work and we keep improving, we can bring Wilmington lacrosse to where we want it to be."

The WHS Boys Lacrosse team includes front row from left: Owen White, James Caples, Alfonso Gambale, Tristan DiMeco, Patrick Xavier and Bruce Green Audette, Nikolas Giniotas, Michael Daniels, Shane Roberts, Nathan Alberti, Bobby Cyr, and Charlie Rooney; Back row from left, Jack Malloy, Matt Pendenza, John Rhind, Gavin Erickson, Luke Murphy, Jack Rooney and Michael Lawler.

(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



The WHS Boys Lacrosse team includes front row from left: Owen White, James Caples, Alfonso Gambale, Tristan DiMeco, Patrick Xavier and Bruce Green Audette, Nikolas Giniotas, Michael Daniels, Shane Roberts, Nathan Alberti, Bobby Cyr, and Charlie Rooney; Back row from left, Jack Malloy, Matt Pendenza, John Rhind, Gavin Erickson, Luke Murphy, Jack Rooney and Michael Lawler.

(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Gavin Erickson of Wilmington, has control of the ball while Burlington's Kyle Coluci tries to take it away during an earlier season league game. (photo by Bob DeChiara).

A trip down memory lane: 1962 WHS Baseball season

Since last September, we have taken rides down Memory Lane, re-running stories from previous WHS Athletic teams, which had great success in the state tournament. Here's a look at the 1962 Baseball team, which reached the state finals.

The stories are collected from four issues from May 31st to the June 7, 14 and 21st issues of the Town Crier.

By TOWN CRIER STAFF

Wilmington's High School Baseball team will start State Tournament play on June 5th, against a team as yet to be named, on a field yet to be chosen.

The team, which won the Lowell Suburban League Championship, will be playing in Class B, for the second year in the state tournament. Last year, the team was only one game away from the State Title, at the end of the year.

Coach Joe Gilligan's team ended the regular season with a record of 12 wins and 2 losses, both of the losses coming in the first two games (against Burlington and Chelmsford).

Three exciting and hard played games, in the past week, finished the season's league play.

On May 23rd, Wilmington defeated Tewksbury, 6-0, in a shut out game with Jeff Williamson on the mound. It was Williamson's second shut out of the year. Nine Tewksbury batters struck out, three walked and they reached the pitcher for five hits, but all were left on base.

Wilmington exploded in the fifth and sixth innings with Johnnie Robbins getting the timeliest hit of all, in the fifth. Anderson walked, Peter Emery walked and Gillis walked, loading the bases and then Robbins hit a line drive down the first base line which was finally stopped by the right fielder, but which drove in three runs.

In the sixth, Field walked, Froton singled, and then Emery singled, scoring Field, after which Williamson singled and scored two runs to make it Wilmington 6 and Tewksbury 0.

On May 25th, it was

Wilmington 1 and Methuen 0, on the Methuen Field with Ricky Froton on the mound. Ricky, Wilmington's first no-hit pitcher in 20 years, has thrown two no-hitters this season and one shut out. In this game, he struck out 15 Methuen players and they managed only two hits.

Wilmington's only run was scored in the fourth,



1962 Lowell Suburban League Champs

with a timely hit by Johnnie Robbins. Jim Gillis led off with a triple, and Robbins singled, scoring Gillis.

Dave Fuller was the big hitter, going 3-for-3, and other hits came from Mike Anderson, Gillis, Robbins, Mike Farrell and Kevin Field.

PLAYOFFS

Wilmington 5,
Newburyport 0

Playing at the Puchard High Field yesterday, Kevin Field pitched a marvelous game for Wilmington, leading the team to a 5-0 victory over Newburyport, a team which Woburn defeated twice this year, but only in extra innings and by virtue of fielding errors.

Mike Anderson made one of the finest catches in his baseball career, in the last inning, catching a hot line drive to right center. It most certainly would have been an extra base ball, spectators declared.

Field, in addition to pitching a fine game, drove in two runs when he tripled in the seventh inning.

There were two runs in the second inning by Mike Farrell and Field. Farrell was scored by Fuller, after which Field stole home during a squeeze play by Emery.

Fuller scored in the sixth after he had doubled. He was sent home on a single by Anderson.

Gillis, in the seventh, made first on a base on balls, stole second and made third on a wild pitch. He then made home on Field's triple, which also scored Farrell.

Wilmington 6, Woburn 4

It's going to be Ricky Froton, Wilmington's star no-hit pitcher against Eddie Foley, Woburn's star pitcher, today at Recreation Park in

Stoneham as the Wilmington and Woburn teams square off in the quarterfinals for the Mass. Baseball Championship.

Froton, had pitched two no-hit games this year, and Foley has a record of 5-0. A pitcher's duel is a certainty.

The Woburn team, top dogs in the Class B Teams, has won 15 games and lost none, this season, while Wilmington has won the last 13, losing the first two.

The major upset of the season in high school baseball this season in Massachusetts, was the defeat of Woburn, 6-4, by Wilmington, in the quarterfinals in Stoneham, last Thursday.

Woburn, defending champion of Class B, had defeated Wilmington a year ago, in Reading, in the same game, and was expected to do so again.

It was only a week ago that the Boston Sunday Herald had a long story about why Woburn should be in Class A. The Woburn team has its pitcher Eddie Foley, one of the outstanding players in high school level today, and has five batters who have been hitting over .300.

There were several errors during the game, errors which in the end proved more costly to Woburn. The biggest was in the sixth inning, when Woburn missed two chances for a double play, with the bases loaded.

Wilmington's third base coach in the first inning failed to send in Mike Farrell for a run, which could have, but didn't, lose the game.

Ricky Froton began the game with a hot ball, across the outside corner of the plate, which the Woburn batters soon caught on to.

In the first three innings,

they made several hits, mostly to right field or foul.

Eddie Foley, pitching for Woburn, kept a hot ball going the entire game, in the duel, but Froton had a change of pace in the fourth, when he began to throw inside curves that dropped sharply as they crossed the plate, and only one more Woburn player, Foley, was able to make a hit, for one base.

Froton finished those last three innings a confident man, fanning five Woburn players, one after another, including such heavy hitters as McDonough and Crowley.

Woburn earned three of its four runs, but Wilmington earned two of its six.

The game opened with

Woburn being the top dog, and in the third inning they made it 3-0, when they bunched three hits and a walk.

Wilmington tied the game in the last of the

third when Foley walked two batters and gave up a single to Jimmy Gillis, which was fielded, but which advanced the runners, when the throw to third for the second out was over the third baseman's head, and both runners scored, and a run was squeezed in to tie.

In the fourth, Woburn made another, which held until the sixth, when Woburn nose-dived when the pitcher gave up hits to Kevin Field and Froton and walked Dave Fuller to fill the bases.

Mike Anderson tried a squeeze play which failed when Foley fielded for a toss to first for a force out.

Pete Emery grounded to

second base, who threw

home to force out Froton,

but Wilmington was saved

from a double play when Woburn failed to cover first.

Kenny Sugarman was

then hit by a pitched ball, and the tying run was forced in. Jimmy Gillis then dropped a single into left field which scored Fuller and Emery, and advanced Sugarman to third base.

The inning ended when Robbins struck out, but with Wilmington in the lead, Ricky Froton settled down for some confident pitching, fanning five batters in a blaze of glory.

Emery led in runs with two, while, Sugarman, Gillis, Fuller and Anderson scored one each.

Froton struck out 15 and Foley ten.

Vs Cathedral

The day before the state finals, with Kevin Field doing most of the pitching - with Williamson missed the second half of the season being ill - Wilmington had defeated a more highly rated Cathedral High School, of South Boston, on the Newton High School field by a score of 7-6.

Both teams were highly nervous, and both had unearned runs to their credit.

Cathedral scored single runs in the second, third and fourth innings and Wilmington, in the fifth

scored four, led by Pete

Emery as the results of a

pair of walks, a fielder's choice and a single by Froton.

In the seventh, Cathedral again forged again with two more runs to make the score 6-4 as the result of several singles and a fielder's error.

Kenny Sugarman made the error but he made up for it in the eighth inning when he drove in the tying and winning runs.

State Final

In the game at Boston College, the Wildcats early had the edge on Barry Needham, highly

rated Randolph pitcher.

Peter Emery, a freshman, was walked to start the game. He was followed by Sugarman, who reached third on errors as Emery scored, the first of his three runs, all on walks.

In the third, Emery again led off with a walk, followed by a walk to Sugarman. Gillis gave a sacrifice to advance them and Mike Farrell reached on an error by the shortstop to score Emery, after which Kevin Field belted one between the first baseman's legs and an error to plate scored both Sugarman and Farrell.

Randolph finally scored

five runs in the fifth

inning, after Froton had issued two walks to start the inning. Needham sacrificed and another pair of walks scored the first run.

Norman Tardiff, big catcher and heavy hitter, then stepped into a fast straight ball to hit a long triple that hit the fence 365-feet from the plate, clearing the bases, except for himself. He scored moments later on an error by Field.

The seventh inning saw another run by Wilmington, tying the game. It was Emery again, and again on a walk.

Both Needham and

Froton were tiring, in the

last two innings. Both had

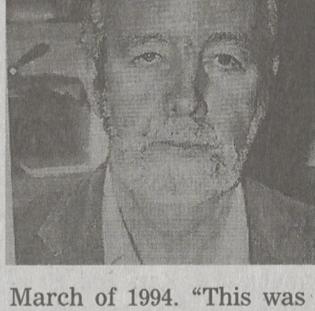
been playing two days in

succession.

The final blow was in the last of the ninth. Randolph's second baseman Melia, made a single, and then Hart singled, which Jimmy Gillis dropped. Again it was Tardiff at the plate and again he stepped into a fast one, to bang out a single.

The game was over, as the Randolph fans erupted from the stands to carry Melia off the field.

Legendary Coach Series: Hall of Famer Joe Gilligan



Over the last handful of months, we started a 'Legendary Coach Series' here at WHS and Shawsheen Tech, looking back at some legends. The list has included Mark/Al Donovan, Evelyn Wells Carter, Mike Pimental, Georgia Dadoly, Bill Ritchie, Bill Gordon, Alice McCarthy, Jim McCune, Dick Scanlon and Frank Kelley. Below is part II on Hall of Fame Baseball Coach Joe Gilligan.

By JAMIE POTE Sports Editor

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Joe Gilligan started coaching at WHS in 1956. Over a period of 18 years, he led the baseball team to three league championship titles and took part in the Eastern Mass tournament five times. The 1962 team advanced to the finals only to lose by one run when Randolph scored in the last of the ninth inning.

"I am proud to be honored with the 1962 Championship Baseball team," said Gilligan the night he was inducted into the WHS Hall of Fame in

significant question ... are you doing the best you can? We won more than we lost, but not by a great margin. I had a very good time when we won and only a little less than a very good time when we lost. But, we always had a good time.

"I like to believe that if I, in fact, made any lasting contribution to my players, it did not lie only in developing skills, but rather in their realization that they were playing a game and that games should be played to be enjoyed. Don't disillusion me, let me believe that you enjoyed playing the game."

He also led the 1961 team to the Lowell Suburban League championship title and then the 1971 team to a share of the Merrimack Valley Conference title.

"There were many years when we did not win any championships, and, at times, not many games. Yet I clearly and fondly recall particular players from those years who were never discouraged and consistently answered yes to my most

there that I was introduced to coach Joe Gilligan. I played for coach Gilligan for three years, winning Lowell Suburban Championships, playing in the State Playoffs and the State Finals in June of 1962 at Boston College. At a young age, I got some excellent coaching from John Ritchie, my Little League coach, who would later be my football coach at Wilmington High School."

"I was lucky to meet coach Gilligan when he was very young, when he was a recreation supervisor in Wilmington. I remember vividly playing tennis, baseball and all sorts of games that he would invent to keep all the kids occupied and happy. Later in my life he would become my high school science teacher and baseball coach."

"Coach Gilligan would teach me much more than baseball. His mild, controlled nature taught me discipline, while his sense of humor helped me to endure mistakes and defeat. Joe's coaching

philosophy helped me to become a winner in sports and in life. Most importantly, his friendship over nearly 50 years means more to me than anyone could ever imagine. Although sports has drastically changed since the 1960's, with better equipment, more organization, better conditioning and the advancing of women's athletics, I hope one thing never changes-coaches who do not just want to win-but who sincerely care about athletes as people with individual needs."

Before coaching, Gilligan was also an excellent ballplayer himself.

"Baseball practices were on the Town Common," remembers Gilligan. "Home plate was in the corner opposite School Street. At times we practiced at the Town Park and traveled by any means possible, generally by foot. We wore the same uniforms throughout my tenure, had the same coach for all sports (Harold Driscoll) back when I played, used the

same glove-which we left on the field for the other team when the inning ended-and used wooden bats with no helmets."

"In 1947 my high school baseball team at Wilmington won the Lowell Suburban League Championship. I think that we went undefeated that season, but I could be mistaken. What I do recall is that the Wilmington Rotary Club invited the team to its luncheon and we were presented with jackets. We must have been very good. The general reward for participating in athletics back then was a chenille blue letter to be sewn on the apparel of your choosing. I think that I still have one - the letter, not the apparel. The exception to this rule was the 1946 football team (Class of 1947) that was presented with sweaters emblazoned with a white 'W.'

Gilligan passed away in 2013 at the age of 84. He was a life-long resident of Wilmington.

Boys Lacrosse team ends season with tough loss to Dracut

By DAN ZIMMERMAN
Sports Correspondent

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TEWKSBURY -- It was fitting, perhaps, that the prevailing conditions for Monday's Tewksbury lacrosse finale were dreary and drizzly. The weather replicated the season outcome for the Redmen, which featured a single win in twelve tries.

The Redmen exited the 2021 campaign in much the same manner that they entered it - falling in a double digit defeat. In this instance, it was the 9-4 Dracut Middies dishing out a 17-5 drubbing to add to an 11-1 win in the previous meeting between these Merrimac Valley League foes.

On the strength of hat tricks from Brock Desmarais and Andrew Titus, Dracut built a commanding 9-3 lead at the break and coasted through the second half.

The real difference in this game was Dracut goalie, Calvin Desmarais, brother of the Middies offensive star. Goalie Desmarais overcame an earlier ACL injury, as well as a season lost to the COVID-19 pandemic only to return to the net and lead his team to a MVL title.

"My hats-off to their goalie," said first-year Tewksbury coach Anthony Pontes. "There's a reason why he's not only one of the best in our conference, but in our state. He made a number of incredible saves. Honestly, with any other goalie in the opposition's net, I think we would have been tied at halftime."

Pontes was alluding to the quantity and quality of the Tewksbury shots on net, which were, for the most part, top-notch. Early in the contest, Sean Hirtle, Rory Power, and Caden Connors, among others, were getting their looks. Noteworthy in the good shot category was senior tri-captain Kyle Darrigo, who was previously sidelined due to a chronic shoulder injury.

"Kyle wanted to play in his last game as a senior," said Pontes. "He's been dealing with a shoulder thing but it was really his call in the end. He's a tough kid and we knew

he'd somehow go out on a strong note and playing as opposed to standing on the sideline."

Dracut put three behind Tewksbury goalie Skyler Schielding before three minutes had elapsed. The Middies doubled that count before Tewksbury snapped the shutout near the end of the first quarter, on a goal from Hirtle.

Tailing 8-1 midway through the second frame, Connors beat Desmarais, seconds after the goalie robbed Power with a diving save.

Near the end of the half, Tewksbury closed the gap to 9-3 on a tally from junior Jason Cooke, who took full advantage of back-to-back Dracut penalties, coupled with a bench misconduct when Middie's coach Paul Ganley questioned the officials.

But when play resumed after the intermission, Dracut cranked up the intensity and climbed to an insurmountable 13-3 lead. The 10-goal disparity in the score triggered the MIAA mercy rule, and the officials wound the clock unabated for the remainder of the game.

Connors picked up his second of the afternoon late in the third quarter and with 7:02 left, senior tri-captain Sean Fahey accounted for Tewksbury's final goal of the season.

While this was a campaign that Pontes would much rather put behind him, there were certainly a number of positives that give him hope for the future of the program. First, and foremost, is freshman goalie Schielding, who has obvious potential.

"I really want him to be working out during the off-season," the coach said. "I completely agree that he has improved in leaps and bounds since game one. You can see that he has really stepped it up. He's a lot less afraid of the ball. He just started playing goalie a couple of months ago and he still has a lot of experience to gain but he's recording double-digit save numbers against some talented varsity athletes."

Speaking of talent, Pontes is looking forward to a number of returning players, one year wiser.



The senior members of the TMHS Boys Lacrosse team includes from left, Sean Fahey, Rory Power, Lucas Tryder, and Kyle Darrigo. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Tewksbury High Boys Lacrosse players from left, Caden Connors, Rory Power, Kyle Darrigo, and Sean Lane try to get the ball away from North Andover's Jack Bambury during an earlier season home game.

(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

"We have a lot of young kids who really need to stick with it over the off-season," he explained. "They need to keep a stick in their hands, play for a club team, and join a winter league - just keep playing in some form or another."

Pontes went on to point out a number of his

younger players who he believes have "a ton of upside," including Braydon Aylward, Tyler Barnes, and Sean Hirtle. And he has a group of juniors who will soon be seniors and will provide the leadership for the Redmen next year.

While the Conference All-Stars will be released

at a future date, Pontes shared the team awards. He paid tribute to Sean Fahey as the MVP, the Coach's Award went to Jason Cooke, Most-Improved to Skyler Schielding, Grit Award was given to Kyle Darrigo, and Caden Connors received the Playmaker Award.

"I think our attitude improved a great deal," responded Pontes. "Whether it was talking with each other, the coaches, or the referees - they just vastly improved in that respect. They kept their frustrations in check and I expect the good attitude to carry over to next year."

Redmen split series with Methuen; preparing for state tournament

By JAMIE POTE

Sports Editor

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METHUEN -- After starting out 0-6 and then 1-9, the Tewksbury Memorial High School Girls Lacrosse team first split against Dracut before closing out the regular season with a split against Methuen, to finish 3-10.

Tewksbury earned that fantastic back-and-forth, 11-10, victory over Methuen last Wednesday.

"This was a big win for us. Methuen is a strong team, and they are in second place in MVC-2 I believe," said head coach

Erin Murphy. "I had looked at their season so far to compare their games to ours and it was clear this would be a battle."

Methuen took a short lead to start the game before Tewksbury started to gain possession and started to execute with some timely shots and goals. The Redmen took an 8-5 lead into the half-time break.

"(In the second half), an unfortunate yellow card gave Methuen a chance to come back and tie the score, but we were able to net a few more goals ourselves," said the coach. "It

has not been an often occurrence for us this year to be in a situation where we need to eat up time on the clock, but that is where we found ourselves at the end of this game.

"We have struggled a bit in keeping our offense wide and moving the ball quickly around but this was a great chance for us to work on that. Despite a tough Methuen defense we were able to move the ball around the '12 securing our win."

In order to come away with a win like this - overcoming several deficits, overcoming adversity,

winning on the road and against a team with a much better record - Tewksbury needed all hands on decks.

"On both ends of the field this was a team effort. We had a combined total of 28 shots and goals from six different offensive players. There was a point at the end of the first half where Kati (Polimeno) was helping us win the draw and get the ball into our offensive zone," said Murphy. "Taking the ball quickly behind (Methuen's net), we were able to feed the ball to incoming players for a quick stick shot on

goal. It was the kind of ball movement I knew the girls were capable of and had been looking for all season."

The offensive production was spread out throughout the entire game.

"Both Polimeno girls (Lexi and Kati) were strong offensively with three goals each. Freshman Katerina Schille also netted two goals for us. Kat has been a valuable sub for us this season. She is athletic, good at ground balls, and not afraid to go to the net," Murphy said. "I look forward to seeing her progress in the program in the next three years. (Maevé) Cahill, (Erin) McIntyre, and (Jamie) Constantino were also able to give the team a goal each. Kati and Erin both had two assists as well as Lexi and Alexis Raymond with one each."

The offense had six different scorers and at the back end, another six or so players stepped up defensively.

"My go to defenders for the second half of our season have been Catanzano, (Alianna) Kennan, (Ashley) Demers, (Jessica) Driscoll, and (Susanna) Darrigo," said Murphy. "Despite Darrigo being mostly an attack player, I have had her start down on defense against tougher teams and I know having her down there as an extra man has been helpful to us."

Lexi led the way with three goals, Kati had three as well as two assists, while McIntyre and Driscoll had one assist each. Kusmal made four saves.

are all very aggressive. They have done a good job intercepting passes around the arc as well as creating a strong barrier to stop an offensive drive.

"Probably one of the most aggressive defenders we have is (goalie) Michelle Kusmal. She is not afraid to step out of the crease and challenge an attacker. She had a great game with eight saves and many critical clears to our midfield. I'm very proud of the way all the girls played in this game."

In the rematch, Methuen came away with a 10-6 victory.

"Unfortunately we were not able to keep that momentum going the following day. Methuen came out strong and definitely with something to prove after what was most likely an unexpected loss the day before. Our passes weren't connecting today as they had the day before and I do believe a break in between to rest would have done us good. But now we are on to the state tournament," said Murphy.

Lexi led the way with three goals, Kati had three as well as two assists, while McIntyre and Driscoll had one assist each. Kusmal made four saves.

Tewksbury will now compete in the state tournament and pairings were slated to come out Wednesday, but were not known as of presstime.



The senior members on the TMHS Girls Lacrosse team includes from left, Susanna Darrigo, Michelle Hinkle, Arianna Dawson, Alexis Raymond, Lexi Polimeno and Erin McIntyre. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

A trip down memory lane: 2003 Boys Track wins Class C Title

Since last September, we have taken rides down Memory Lane, re-running stories from previous TMHS Athletic teams, which had great success in the state tournament. Here's a look at the Boys Outdoor Track team after winning the Class C Eastern Mass Championship title back in 2003.

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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And yet they did it again.

For the second consecutive year, the Tewksbury High boys outdoor track team captured the Class C State Meet championship with scoring 83 points, including seven in Monday's conclusion of the pole vault event, giving the program's its sixth state championship title in the past ten years.

"In all the years I've been coaching and with all of the teams I've had, I've never been so proud of a team before," said coach Steve Levine. "I've been proud of many teams in the past, but there is no way this team should have won. This team had depth but it didn't have the studs. It had the depth to win a relay meet, but I didn't think we had enough to win a state meet."

"It was the night after the prom when the expectations were high, but I really didn't think it would end like this. I was reserved and the kids had high expectations and they are the ones who competed and who came through."

Tewksbury trailed by double digit points early on Saturday morning, but rallied from behind thanks to several outstanding and clutch performances. By the end of Saturday, both Tewksbury and Bishop Feehan left Plymouth High with 76 points, tied for first place.

Because Plymouth South didn't have adequate pole vault equipment, that event took place on Monday at Dedham's Northeaster University's complex. Tewksbury had John Bavota and Tim Lyons competing and Feehan didn't have any competitors. Bavota cleared ten feet to take third and Lyons also cleared ten feet to take fifth which gave the team the championship title.

"Bishop Feehan complained in the meet about the pole vault because they don't do it," said Levine. "But a lot of teams in the Middlesex League don't have it either. But what they do is they train their kids and send them somewhere so they can practice it and have them ready for the state meet especially if it's a big meet. Bishop Feehan has known this for four or five years now, they could have done that. I'm not putting them down, but they could have done that."

Things weren't going at that well for Tewksbury early on. They got an expected first place from Dan Sarsfield in the two mile (9:56.1), a sixth place by junior Mike Kukler in the mile (4:42.6) and they managed 13 points from the field events guys as Ryan Byrne was second in the shot put (54'02"), his brother Chris was fourth in the javelin (164'00) and Mike Mosher was sixth in the long jump (18'10.75").

"At one point we were really far down there," said Levine. "Mansfield was beating up on us, so was Bishop Feehan and even Wilmington was well ahead of us. It started in the 200 with Jeff Bourgeois coming out of nowhere to take third and he beat two Bishop Feehan kids. He started the whole thing just like he did in the indoor state meet. Dan [Sarsfield] then took first in the two

mile because his [girlfriend] was there."

Bourgeois, another remarkable person and captain on this team, got things rolling when he took a third place in the 200 finishing at 23.79. That was the spark the team needed as his six points gave the team a lift. But then came the 110 meter hurdles.

"Kevin Ianetta in the hurdles ran out of his mind to get into the finals, and he then he ran the race of his life to take second place and he beat two Bishop Feehan kids who were seeded ahead of him and all of a sudden we got eight points we didn't expect," said Levine, of Ianetta's 16.04 finish.

Mosher took a fourth in the 300 hurdles (41.06) and Peter Fortunato (2:01.8) and Jon Flanagan (2:01.9) finished fourth and sixth respectively in the 800 giving the team ten more points and into a position of being among the top teams, with the three relay races left.

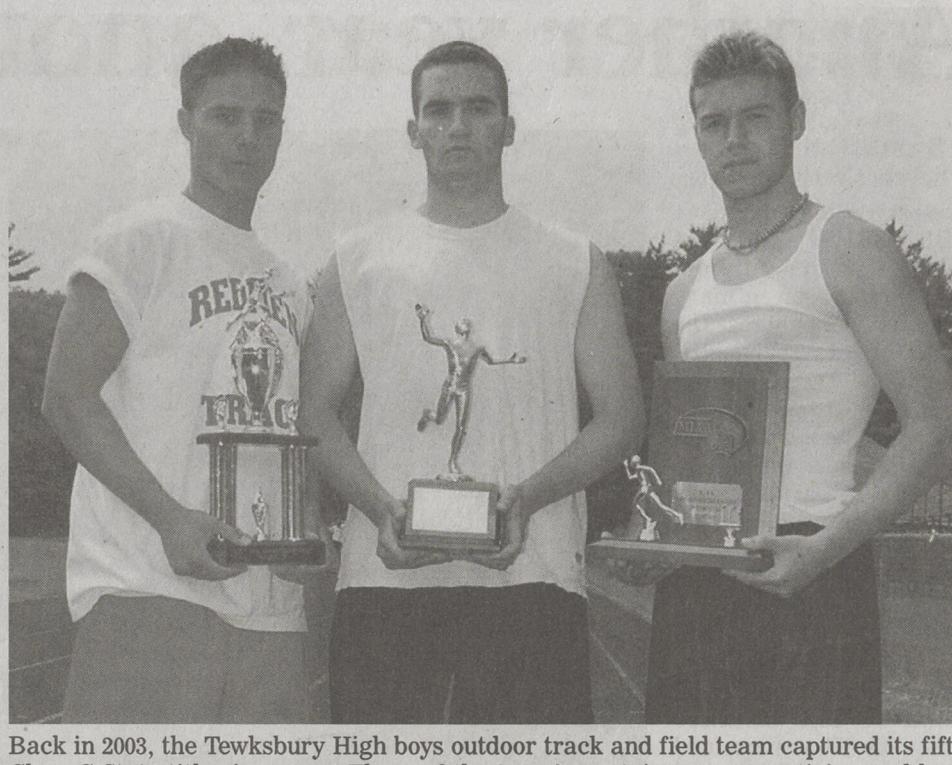
"Bob MacDougall came up to me and said 'you better find a replacement for Dan [Sarsfield] because he's not going to be able to go' [in the 4x800 relay]," said Levine. "I looked at Bob and said 'he's running'. When Dan got the baton, no lie, he was a good 70 yards behind the Bishop Feehan runner. Bishop Feehan knew if they won that race they would have the meet won."

"After the first lap in the 800, Dan was still seventy yards behind and I was going crazy talking to his [girlfriend] saying 'he's all done and he can't do this'. While I was talking to her everyone started to yell 'he's catching him, he's catching him' and I start to look up but I couldn't see from where I was and his [girlfriend] then said to me 'what were you saying'?"

"As they came around the corner, the Bishop Feehan kid was really dying and Dan was flying going 23 seconds in the last 200. They got to the finish line and the Feehan kid tried to dive across and he fell and Dan won, and we win the race. We were seeded seventh and we beat our previous best time by over eleven seconds. It was an incredible, incredible finish for Dan."

That followed with the 4x100 relay race.

"We were seeded fourth. Jeff Bourgeois ran a great race and so did the others Joe Torname, Josh Corriveau and Mike Mosher, as they finished in second place for another huge eight points finishing at 44.90. The 4x400 relay was left and we knew that if we won that race we would leave there as co-champions until the meet was decided on Monday with the pole vault. If we lost that race, Bishop Feehan would be ahead and we would have our work cut out for us in the pole vault."



Back in 2003, the Tewksbury High boys outdoor track and field team captured its fifth Class C State title since 1994. Three of the team's captains were practicing and here they show off the team's trophies. From left to right are Jim Hamilton, John Cintolo and Jeff Bourgeois. Missing from the photo are the team's other two captains, Dan Sarsfield and Ryan Byrne. (file Photo).

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"Feehan was seeded well ahead of us and we just wanted to put four kids in there who we hoped could do the best they could and then let the pole vaulters do there thing. Anthony Corsino started off and he got so excited when he did a 55 second split, and then he did a 54 and a 53, but Saturday he did a 52.7 leg, and just amazed all of us. We were stunned. We had the lead and no one could believe it."

"Bobby Fitzpatrick was next and he fell behind a little and Chris Byrne was next. We were hoping he could run a 54 or 55 second leg, and we knew that would be hard because he was doing the javelin all day and wasn't running. He ended up running a 52.9 leg."

"He gives the baton in the lead to Kevin Ianetta. He was going up against [Jim Anacode of Bishop Feehan] and Kevin was trailing for a little bit until the last straightaway and passes the kid at the 200 meter mark as he cuts in."

The kid repasses Kevin, and Kevin just hangs with him and hangs with him, driving and driving and at the finish line, Kevin had that long lanky lean and he pushed ahead just a bit. No one knew who would for several seconds, we were all waiting there and they pointed over to us and we all went crazy."

On Monday the excitement continued. Bavota cleared his first attempt at ten feet of the pole vault and that followed with Lyons, who put the icing on the cake giving Tewksbury another piece of hardware.

"[Assistant coach] Bill Piscione deserves a lot of the credit," said Levine. "Before the relay races started I told him that we had a chance to win but the kids had to know that. He told me to get away and he gathered the kids together. With his nose crinkling, he told the kids that [Feehan] was going to lose and not us. He gave such a motivational speech and the kids

The 2005 Girls Track team were also Eastern Mass Champions

Here's a look at the Girls Outdoor Track team after winning the Class C Eastern Mass Championship title back in 2005.

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

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WESTON — For just the fourth time in school history, the Tewksbury High girls outdoor track and field team have taken home a state championship. And like the other ones, this one wasn't so easy.

On Saturday, the Lady Redmen were in third place when 17 of the 18 events were completed at Mansfield High School. Tewksbury had 66 points trailing Mansfield and Wellesley, who had 69 and 68, respectively in a very

competitive Class C Meet.

On Monday the final event, the pole vault was held but at Weston High School. That's when the team came up with 18 points giving them 84 total points which was more than enough to celebrate comfortably with its first Class C State title since 2000.

"To me the best part of this entire (state championship) is the fact that (on Monday) we had three girls competing in the pole vault and if look up on that hill, there's probably 40 to 50 of their teammates cheering them on and coming here (to Weston) on the holiday to support them," said first year head coach Bill Piscione. "To be that means everything. I've said all along that this is a

close knit team and this shows that. You have seniors hanging out with freshmen and sophomores and you truly can't ask for anything better."

Piscione certainly will remember this season for a long time. The team finished perfect at 7-0 on the season, improving its record to 168-36 since 1980, and won its 15th Merrimack Valley Conference Division 2 title in 16 years (the other season the team was in the large school division).

During this spring, the team also captured its sixth Class C Relay Meet championship, finished second place at the Tewksbury Invitational and won the MVC Conference Meet.

Then in a three day span, Tewksbury behind

four first places and a handful of other strong performances which helped earned big points, bring home the state championship trophy.

This team now joins the 1991 and '92 (Class B titles) clubs and then the 2000 team, with tall three of those titles under the direction of former head coach Bob MacDougall.

Over the 18 events, Tewksbury placed only placed in 9 of them as they dominated the running events scoring 48 of the team's 84 points. The team added the 18 points from the pole vault and the final 18 points came in the triple jump which accounted for the all of the team's points.

The Lady Redmen didn't have any participants in either the discus or the

high jump, which really ends the arguments from teams like Mansfield and others who complained that it was unfair that Tewksbury had the pole vault, as their school or league doesn't offer it.

"With these two days, the entire meet rested on the shoulders of these three girls and I don't think that's fair," said Piscione. "But I think (Monday) shows that they didn't crack under the pressure."

Certainly Piscione knew all along that this team was very talented. But no way could he have expected several of the place finishers the team received, especially considering that three freshmen on the team accounted for 26 of the team's points which is truly amazing.

"I truly believe that (Class C) is by far the most competitive of the four," said Piscione. "We would have done extremely well in the other classes, and I think with our times we could have won Class B and I believe Class A too."

Leading the way with first places included seniors Lauren Barbour and Stephanie Gaynor, as well as freshman Katalin Soni in the individual events.

The girls 4x400 relay team (4:05.67) also were victorious behind Barbour, Stacey Ossinger, Soni and Colleen Fitzpatrick. Barbour won the 300-meter hurdles at 45.27 seconds, over a full second over runner-up Cassie Bowe of North Andover (46.35).

Barbour is now seeded second in the entire state for this Saturday's All-State Meet which will be held at Worcester State College.

Gaynor continued her incredible indoor and outdoor seasons by taking the 200 meter dash title coming in at 25.33 seconds. Soni was the big surprise of the meet as she

finished first in the triple jump at 36-00.75, which was followed up by Barbour who was second at 35-03.00 for 18 huge and very surprising points which got the team off to a great start.

Besides the first and second places, the team received several other very important points. In the 100 dash, freshman Kristina Zontini finished fifth with a very impressive 12.88 second time. In the 400, freshman Nikki Cunha was fourth at 58.58 followed by senior Stacey Ossinger, who was fifth at 58.86.

Rounding out the scoring on Saturday included the second place 4x100 relay team (50.72) and the fifth place 4x800 relay team (10:08.83).

Then trailing the front runner by two points, Tewksbury finished second, third and fourth in the pole vault on Monday behind Cunha (9 feet), senior Amanda Parsons (9 feet) and freshman Hadley Santos (8-6), respectively.

"Unequivocally the credit goes to assistant coaches John Byrnes, Jack O'Brien, Peter Molloy, Peter Saber and (boys head coach) Steve Levine," said Piscione. "You couldn't find a better staff than that. Then you had girls like Lauren Barbour, Stacey Ossinger, Soni and Colleen Fitzpatrick.

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The TMHS Girls Outdoor Track Team from 2005, captured the Class C Eastern Mass Championship title. (file photo/JoeBrownphotos.com)

Wrestling team captures 13th straight CAC Championship

Another year, another title for Rams

By MIKE IPPOLITO
Sports Correspondent

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BILLERICA - This has been a very different wrestling season in many ways for teams across the state of Massachusetts, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting with the fact that the season itself is taking place during the spring, to wearing masks during matches and holding outdoor meets, there have been a multitude of changes along the way.

With that being said, there are of course some things that remain the same. One of those things that has remained consistent is the Shawsheen Tech Wrestling team dominating the Commonwealth Athletic Conference.

Last Friday night the Rams wrapped up their 13th consecutive CAC title with a 29-21 win over Essex/Tech Masco co-op at Masconomet Regional High School. The win over Essex/Masco was part of a tri-meet where the Rams also defeated the Marblehead/Swampscott co-op by a score of 42-40 to wrap up their abbreviated spring season with a record of 7-2 overall and 5-0 in the CAC.

The win over Marblehead/Swampscott was a thriller, but the win of the day was of course the win over Essex/Masco to wrap up another league title for the 27th title in coach Mark Donovan's 36 years as head coach of the Rams.

"It was a very odd year all around, with the season being in the spring and everything, but I am just glad the seniors got to have a season and the younger kids learned what it is like to wrestle for Shawsheen," Donovan said. "Twenty-seven titles in thirty-six years not bad at all. And thirteen in a row is great for this program."

In the win over Essex Masco, the Rams had several wrestlers step up with clutch performances to clinch the league title, led by senior Jack Scharn at 182 pounds, who pinned his opponent in a time of 3:52. Scharn also picked up a win over Marblehead/Swampscott on the day, capping his career in style.

"Jack wrestled really well," Donovan said. "Those were the first two wins of his career and they were big for us."

Shawsheen also got wins from Scharn's fellow seniors Frank Foti at 152 pounds and Devin DeLuca at 160, with Foti winning by major decision by a score of 12-1, while DeLuca also dominated, winning 9-2. Junior Lucien Tremblay meanwhile picked up a 10-6 win at 126 pounds.

Freshman Tyler Mantley of Tewksbury (106) and sophomore Connor McDevitt each picked up a win by forfeit for the Rams.

"We had a lot of kids step up for us," Donovan said. "The kids knew what was a stake and they know there is always a



The Shawsheen Tech Wrestling team captured its 13th straight CAC League Championship title. The captains, from left, Austin Dube, Devin Deluca, Frank Foti, Diondre Turner and Aiden Lefler, join with legendary head coach Mark Donovan. (courtesy photo).

target on their back, but they respond that, and they take a lot of pride in that."

The win over Marblehead/Swampscott was not relevant to the league title, but it was still a thriller, as the Rams pulled out a 42-40 victory that was not decided until the second to last match of the day, when senior Liam Kelley won by pin at 285 pounds to give the Rams the clinching points.

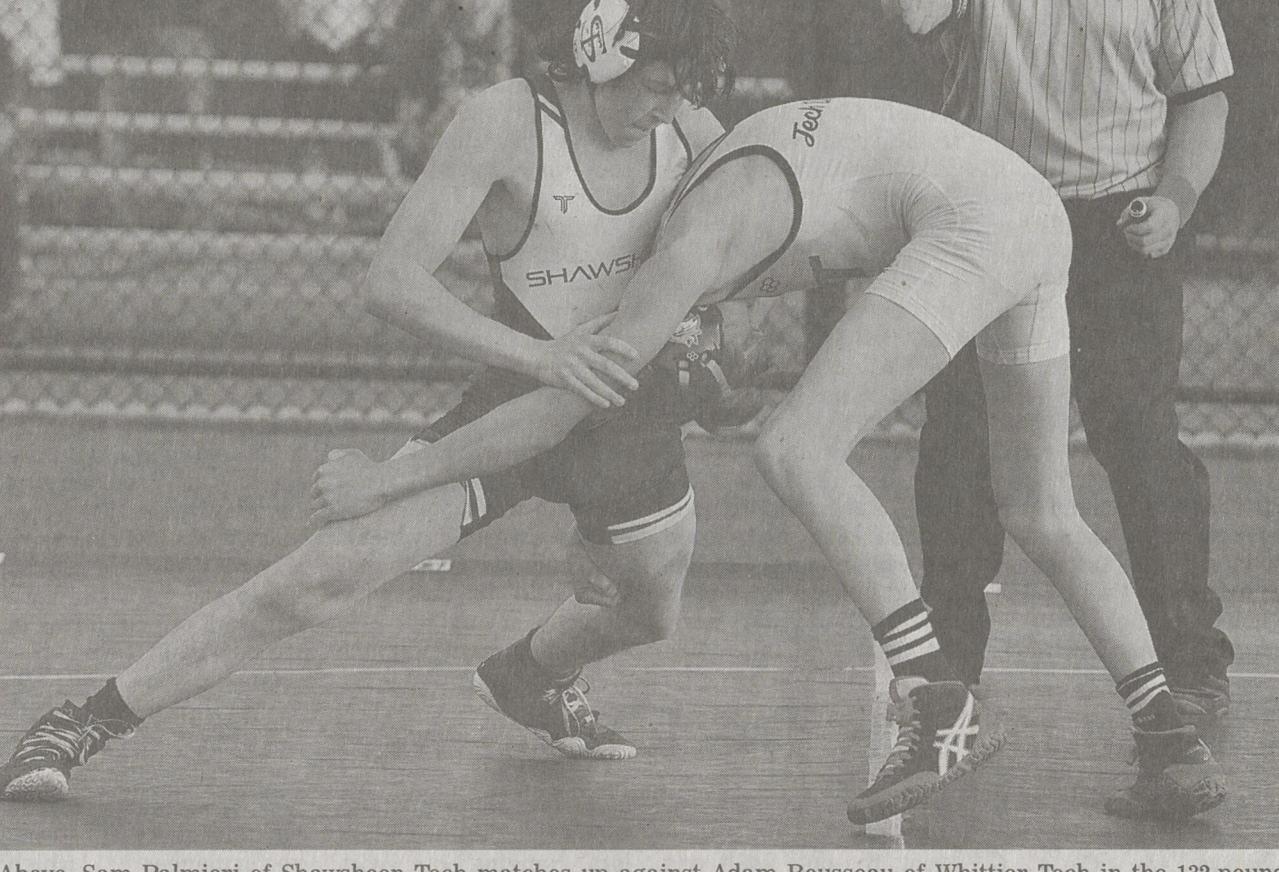
"It was good to see Liam step up to the plate like that and do the right thing," Donovan said. "That was a huge win for us."

Kelley was one of several seniors who wrapped up their Shawsheen careers last Friday, along with Devin DeLuca, Nick DiCicco, Austin Dube, Sean Fitzgerald, Frank Foti, Derek Musgrave of Tewksbury, Alex Newcomb of Tewksbury, Joe Rakes, Dominic Searles, Diondre Turner of Tewksbury and Zack Wilson of Tewksbury.

"I am very happy for the seniors. It was a great way for them to end their careers," Donovan said. "Not a lot of people get to say they were part of four league championships."

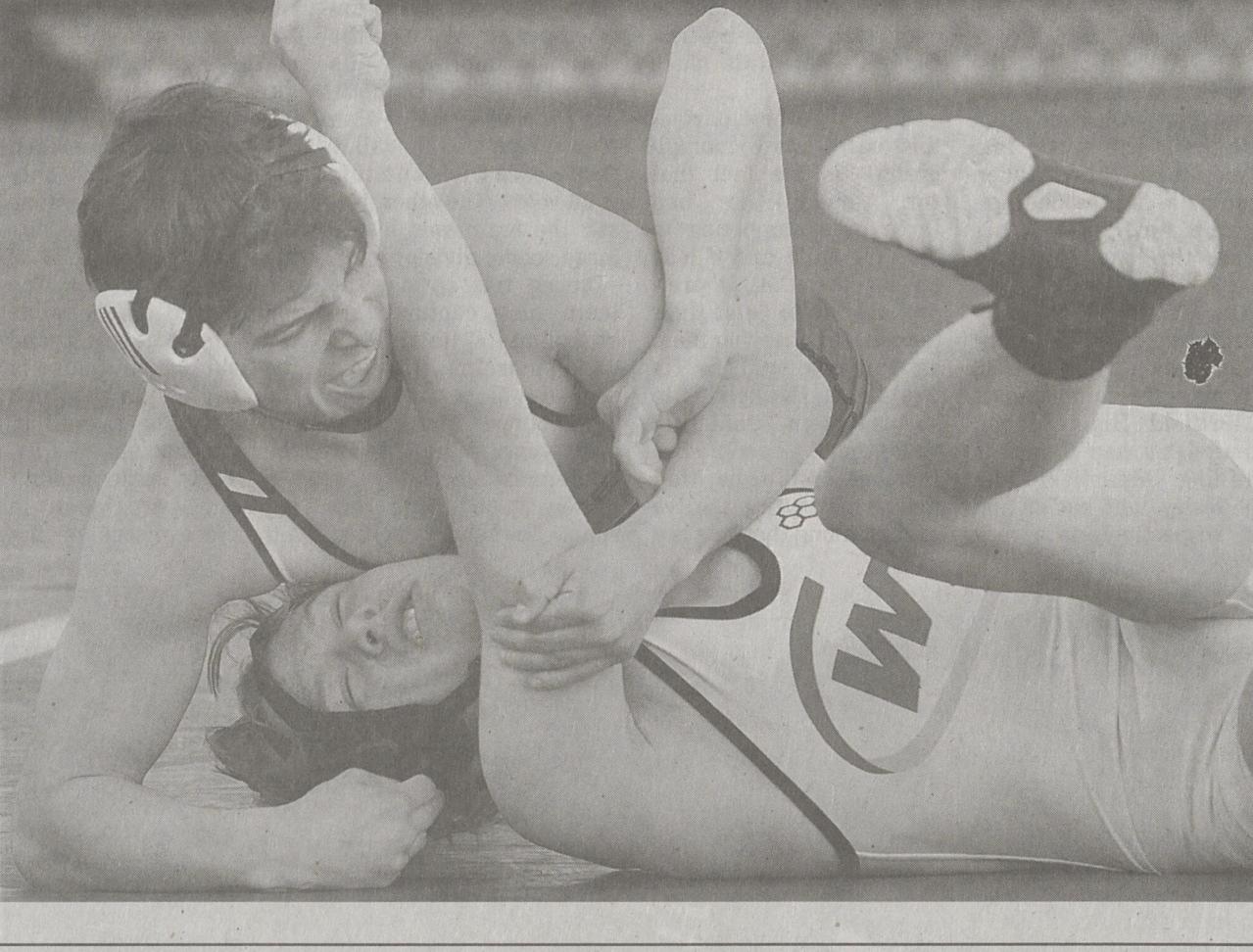
With another league title behind them, the Rams will now look ahead to next season where they will hope to make it 14 in a row. With a strong junior class led by Joe D'Ampolo of Tewksbury, along with Toby Lage, Sam Palmieri, Xavier Santiago and Lucien Tremblay, the Rams look primed to make another run at the CAC crown next season.

"We have a great junior class, and they will be the group leading us next year," Donovan said. "I don't want to brag, but with this program, we don't rebuild, we reload. The kids get it. The kids understand it, and they take pride in that."



Above, Sam Palmieri of Shawsheen Tech matches up against Adam Rousseau of Whittier Tech in the 132-pound division and below, Frank Foti is about to pin Lucas Welling, all during an earlier season home match.

(photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).



Gillis tosses a scoreless inning for Mudcats

KANNAPOLIS - Zavier Warren hit a home run and tripled, Felix Valero turned in another multi-hit game and Joe Gray Jr. collected two hits while extending his hitting streak to 17 straight games, but the Mudcats lost their second straight to the Cannon Ballers 10-6 on Thursday night in Kannapolis.

Gray helped put the Mudcats (19-13) up 1-0 in the first after dropping a bloop single to left that would go on to be misplayed by left fielder Chase Krogman. The resulting error allowed

Freddy Zamora to score all the way from first and allowed Gray up to second. That hit extended Gray's hitting streak to a Low-A East best 17 consecutive games.

The Cannon Ballers (6-26) trailed 1-0 going into the second, but went on to take the lead with help of two homers, including a solo shot from DJ Gladney and a two-run blast from Ivan Gonzalez in the same frame.

Carolina starter Jhoan Cruz allowed both Kannapolis homers in the second and later allowed another home run to

Bryan Ramos in the third. In all, Cruz (2-3, 6.98) allowed five runs on seven hits over three innings pitched. He also gave up three home runs and struck out four in the loss.

Andrew Dalquist (1-2, 5.21) earned the win for Kannapolis after allowing just one unearned run on two hits over five innings.

Kannapolis led 5-1 entering the sixth, but went on to add three more with help of a run scoring double by Cabrerera Weaver and a RBI triple from nine hitter Samil Polanco. Those three runs were allowed in by reliever

Juan Geraldo, but only after he had retired six straight between the fourth and fifth innings.

Carolina cut into the seventh after Warren connected on a two-run home run off reliever Jesus Valles. Warren's homer was his second of the season and it briefly cut the score to 8-3. The Cannon Ballers answered later in that same inning with a two run double from Gladney off Peyton Long. Kannapolis then took a 10-3 lead into the ninth, but the Mudcats would battle back with a three

run frame before seeing the rally fizzle away. Warren started the Carolina ninth with a triple off reliever Tyson Messer. Warren the scored moments later on a wild pitch lost by Messer as the Mudcats made it 10-4.

Messer went on to walk the next three he faced to load the bases. Marcus Evey then took over with the bags full and went on to get Zamora to fly out before striking out Gray. Noah Campbell came through in the clutch with a two-run double to make it 10-6. Evey then went on to walk Joey Wiemer to

load the bases again, but Alex Hall would ground out to second to end the game.

Carolina stranded three in the ninth, two in the seventh and nine total runners in the loss. They also went just 1-for-7 with runners in scoring position, with Campbell's run scoring double in the ninth being Carolina's lone hit with runners in scoring position in the game.

Jackson Gillis pitched a scoreless eighth inning, walking one and striking out one.

Rams close out regular season at 13-1, capture league championship

By MIKE IPPOLITO
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BILLERICA - While they still have some bigger goals ahead of them in the state tournament, the Shawsheen Tech Baseball team completed a big part of their season mission this past week, clinching their first league title since 2016 with a pair of wins over CAC opponents, defeating Northeast on the road by a score of 6-1 in nine innings on Thursday, and then routing Lowell Catholic by a score of 14-0 at home on Saturday.

With the two wins, the Rams finished their season with a 13-1 overall record, including an 11-1 mark in the CAC. The win over Northeast also avenged the Rams only loss of the season, a 1-0 defeat to the Golden Knights at home last Tuesday afternoon.

Thursday's game was another pitcher's duel for much of the day, with Shawsheen senior Chris Disciccia allowing just five hits through seven innings of work, before ceding to junior Shane Costello of Wilmington, who was equally brilliant over the last two innings. Meanwhile, Shawsheen was unable to get anything going on offense either, as for the second game in a row, Northeast pitching shut down the normally potent Rams offense.

That all changed in the top of the ninth, however when the Rams rallied for the win.

With the new federation rules, a team starts extra innings with a man on second base and one out. Neither team could get anything done in the eighth inning, but in the ninth, Ben Powell and Adam Kearns had back-to-back singles to give the Rams the lead. Ryan Santini walked and then Matt Hemenway and Maverick Bourdeau followed with two more hits to cap the five-run rally.

"That was a thrilling game," Shawsheen coach Brian McCarthy said. "It was good to be a part of a tight game in extras at this point in the season. That can only help prepare us for post-season play."

In addition to the big ninth inning rally, the other big key to the Rams getting the win in extras was Costello's performance on the mound, as he set Northeast down in order in both the eighth and ninth inning.

"Shane was fantastic coming in to seal the deal. Chris started that day for us and was fantastic through seven. But his pitch count got to about 100, so we went to the bullpen," McCarthy said.

"It is nice to be able to rely on guys for us to come in when the game is tight and after our starters have been solid all day."

McCarthy was impressed with the way his team bounced back from their first loss of the season on Tuesday to pull out a big win on Tuesday, as well as the rout of Lowell Catholic on Thursday, refusing to let the loss affect them in their next game against the same team.

"No one likes a loss, but if we can use it as a learning experience, then it's not the worst thing in the world heading into tournament time. We were able to

learn from it, put it behind us, and then go out and get two more wins and win the league," McCarthy said. "It was a great job by our players staying focused and hungry. I am really proud of this group. They have been working hard since the snow melted and couldn't wait to get out on the field. They come to practice every day with a purpose and work to get better.

"They are all team-first players. Many have shifted positions for the betterment of the team, and done things that make us better. They've really gelled and we seem to have a good thing going right now. It's been fun to be a part of it."

There was no drama for the Rams on Saturday, as they got off to a fast start and never looked back on their way to clinching the league title, led by a complete game one hitter from senior pitcher Ben Powell.

"We had all three phases of the game going, pitching, defense, and bats were swinging," McCarthy said. "We belted out 12 hits that day. It was great to see and a good feeling wrapping up our regular season that way."

One of the offensive leaders on the day for the Rams was sophomore Ryan Santini, who had two triples and three RBI to spark the Rams. McCarthy was happy to see Santini contribute to such a big win for the team.

"Ryan has been a swing player for us this year spending some time on varsity and some on JV. He's done everything we've asked of him, and more," McCarthy said. "We want him to get work in as a pitcher, but there is no room in the rotation up on varsity, so he goes down and does a spot start here and there. Then, he'll bounce back up to varsity and play a few games with us here as a role player."

"However, recently, he's been pounding the ball and worked his way into a start after coming up big in the extra inning game at Northeast. So, he started against Lowell Catholic and came through for us in a big way. It is great to see players take advantage of their opportunities when they arise."

The Rams were also sparked on offense by Costello, who had two hits, three runs scored and two RBI as well as Adam Kearns, Owen Duggan and Maverick Bourdeau, who added two hits each.

When McCarthy spoke to the Town Crier, he did not know who the Rams would be playing in the upcoming state tournament, with pairings set to be announced on Wednesday, but regardless of their opponent, he was proud of the work his team had done to earn their league title and their spot in the post season.

"We did what we had to do and put ourselves in a good position to have a high seed and probably get a home game. That's all that we can do for the moment," McCarthy said. "Now, we have to go out and keep practicing, and keep getting better until the brackets are released and we see who we draw. We are excited to get the opportunity."



Shawsheen Tech's Keeley DeLosh eventually gets tagged out by Northeast's Gianna Scopettuolo during a rundown between second and third base during an earlier season Shawsheen Tech Softball game.

(photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

In the circle, Shawsheen takes two out of three

By MIKE IPPOLITO
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BILLERICA - The season may not have gone exactly as planned for the Shawsheen Tech Softball team, but the Redmen did finish on a strong note this past week, winning two of their final three

their week last Thursday with a 13-0 win on the road over Greater Lawrence, jumping out to a 3-0 first inning lead and never looking back. Junior Ella Malvone of Wilmington helped lead the Rams offense, going 3-for-4 on the night with two runs scored, while senior Chloe

Pereira, Jordan Quick and Celine Reynolds were honored for their careers with the Rams.

On Monday at Whittier, the Rams closed out their season with a 5-0 loss to CAC champion Whittier, but they did not make it easy for the Wildcats to complete their undefeated run through the CAC, trailing just 1-0 after three innings before Whittier broke things open with three runs in the fourth inning.

"This was a refreshing win. The girls played well," Ialuna said. "Mia pitched a great game. She kept their hitters off balance most of the day, and the defense made the plays when they needed to. It was a nice team win."

The Rams didn't let up the next day in their rematch with Greater Lawrence, and in fact were even better this time around on Senior Day at Shawsheen, banging out 20 hits on the day, defeating Greater Lawrence, 17-4. Shawsheen scored four runs in the first inning and five more in the second to put the game away early on.

Quick followed up her fine defensive performance from the day before with an outstanding day at the plate, while junior Sandra Watne of Wilmington had three hits and four runs scored.

Sophomore Brooke Carlquist also chipped in with three hits, while DeLosh was once again outstanding defensively with six putouts at second base.

Junior pitcher Kayla Mirisola of Tewksbury meanwhile, scattered eight and struck out three to get the win.

Prior to the game, the Rams five seniors, Kelley DeLosh, Caitlyn McCarthy, Chloe

Bowden, Watne, Pereira, and Mirisola all hit well for the Rams.

Watne also did a fine job in the pitcher's circle, as she struck out seven batters, surrendered seven hits, walked one and gave up five runs, three of which were earned.



Freshman Catcher Jeyana Cronin throws the ball back to the pitcher during an earlier season Shawsheen Tech varsity softball game. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

games of the season. First the Rams defeated Greater Lawrence twice in blowout victories last Thursday and Friday, before hanging tough with perennial CAC champion Whittier in a loss in their season finale on Monday.

The Rams closed out their season with an overall record of 4-8.

Shawsheen kicked off

Pereira was 2-for-4 with two runs and junior Paityn Rose was 2-for-3.

Overall, the Rams banged out 13 hits on the day. Senior Kelley DeLosh played well defensively, and fellow senior Jordan Quick of Wilmington made a great catch to end the game.

Sophomore pitcher Mia Bisso of Tewksbury won

Weekend Warriors: Five ways to battle injury

Local Therapist offers healthy advice to the occasional athlete

By GREG CROSSMAN
Guest Columnist

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates nearly nine million Americans pack a full week's worth of exercise into just two days.

These occasional athletes, also known as Weekend Warriors, account for the largest population encountering nonprofessional sport-related injuries, which add up to healthcare costs exceeding more than \$18 billion per year.

The most common injuries Weekend Warriors face include rotator cuff injuries, Achilles tendonitis, golf or tennis elbow, acute knee pain and ankle sprains.

Weekend Warriors and recreational athletes suffer from injuries at a rate that far surpasses their everything-in-moderation fitness counterparts. Age

and physical condition play significant roles in these injuries, as tissue loses its elasticity and are not conditioned properly for rigorous activity. But injuries can be minimized with a dose of common sense prevention.

1. Start with a thorough physical exam. This can be with your physician or a qualified personal trainer.

Physical Therapists are also uniquely qualified to perform this kind of assessment as their

experts in assessing and treating the musculoskeletal system.

5. Rest and Listen to Your Body. Consecutive days of training translate into increased injuries.

While many athletes think the more they train, the better they'll play, the truth is, a tired body is more susceptible to muscle strain and other injuries. Consistent pains and strains over time can be a sign of health problems, and are among the most frequent causes that derail a fitness regime.

3. Light Stretching.

Often, weekend warriors skip stretching altogether, and sometimes over-stretch. Routine light stretching helps warm muscles up and increases range of motion.

4. Commit to Fitness

Throughout the Week. To eliminate muscle shock, introduce physical activity throughout the week that includes cardiovascular activity, stretching and weightlifting for bal-

anced strength and conditioning.

These are just a few ideas to help keep you Weekend Warriors healthy and injury free. Greg at Complete Game Physical Therapy at 978-710-7204 with any questions or to set up a wellness screen at either of their convenient locations in Tewksbury or Lowell.



Wilmington Little League announces registration for Summer Baseball and Softball

Wilmington Little League has announced that registration is open for Summer Jimmy Fund Baseball and Summer Middle Essex Softball.

Registration is still open for Summer 2021 Softball for the Middle Essex League for 10U, 12U, and 14U teams. We will be doing the registration on our new platform of which some of you may have created accounts for in the spring.

For those that have not you will need to register by clicking on the register button on the home page, for those that have accounts simply login and proceed to register.

Dates are still be finalized but the season runs starting in mid June into early August. Teams play two games per week on weeknights, against other local towns.

Registration can be done at:

<https://clubs.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=891360>

Registration has been set up as a tryout so we will not collect a fee at this time as we gauge interest based upon registration. Once we know the number of teams and interest the new system will automatically be able to add your play-

er to a division and complete the payment process and registration.

Also, registration is still open at our new website for Summer Jimmy Fund Baseball. There are programs for small diamond players from ages 8-12. Registration will close soon, log onto:

<https://clubs.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=891360>

Rams Girls Lacrosse team extends winning streak to six

By MIKE IPPOLITO
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BILLERICA -- As they head into the post season, the Shawsheen Tech Girls Lacrosse team will be looking to continue the momentum of a very strong finish their regular season, where they won six games in a row to finish with a record 9-3. After falling to 3-3 on May 19, after a second consecutive loss to eventual CAC champion Essex Tech, the Rams pulled together and have tasted defeat since.

Recently, the Rams picked up three consecutive wins to keep that hot streak going. The first of those games came on the road at Rivier College where the Rams took on CAC rival Lowell Catholic and came away with a 12-7 victory, led by five goals from Devin Sweeney to go along with three from Kerry Brown, two from sophomore Kiley McFadden of Tewksbury and one each from junior Lexi Vio and senior Rachael Halas, while senior Jenna Johnson made eight saves to get the win.

The two teams were back at it the very next day, this time at Shawsheen, and the results were very similar, with the Rams coming away with a 13-7 win. Although the score was very similar Shawsheen coach Alex O'Reilly felt that the two games were actually quite different.

"This was a much cleaner game by both teams," O'Reilly said. "We were lucky to have such experienced referee for this game as opposed to the first game, who just let both teams play, so that was great. They were very experienced and knew both teams very well and knew that even though we were playing aggressively that we both play within the rules and have a lot of respect for each other."

The Rams were once again lead by Sweeney (five goals) and Brown (four goals) on offense, while Vio had four of her own, and Johnson played well in net to get the win. Johnson did have to leave the game briefly when she took a shot off her neck, and she was replaced by freshman Emma McDermott.

"Emma did a great job holding things down until Jenna back in there, and as usual Jenna did a great job while she was in the game," O'Reilly said. "I thought the whole team played well. It's never easy to face Lowell Catholic two games in a row, but the girls had such a great game. It was a battle the whole way through, but we were able to make some big plays to score some goals."

On Tuesday, June 1, the Rams had a much easier time of it when they host-



Above, Shawsheen Tech's Kasey McFadden is boxed in by several Mystic Valley players and below, Mike Lasson looks to make a pass while under pressure from Essex Tech's Jacob Solio during earlier season lacrosse games. (photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).



ed Whittier Tech at Shawsheen and coasted to an 18-2 victory.

"It was a great game

because we were able to get a lot of kids into the game, and even bring some kids up from JV to

get some experience," O'Reilly said.

Among those players brought up from JV was

McDermott who this time played an entire half in net, and did very well, making five saves, while Jenna Johnson was able to move out of the net and play attack where she scored two goals.

The Rams had some very balanced scoring, with sophomore Alexis Fox of Wilmington scoring the first two goals of her varsity career. She was joined on the score sheet by Rachael Halas, who had three goals, while junior Lee Singer and senior Faith Clark had two each. The Rams also got solo tallies from junior Abbie Wood, junior Ashley Talbot of Tewksbury, Lexi Vio, and senior Sarah Comeau, while Sweeney and Brown scored one goal each in limited playing time.

"I played the two of them for just the first quarter, just to make sure we got off to a good start," O'Reilly said. "And after they came out, they were the biggest cheerleaders for their teammates, and did a great job helping the younger players get ready to get out on the field."

The Rams will now await

their opponent for the

upcoming MIAA

Tournament,

where O'Reilly is hoping they

can continue their strong

play as of late. Due to a production error in last week's edition, this story didn't run in its entirety. We apologize for the error and confusion.

play as of late.

"We have gotten better as the year has gone on, and the season has just gone by so fast," O'Reilly said. "I just think the combination of not playing last season and this season going by so fast has had us at the top of our game, and the kids are making the most of their time together."

BOYS LACROSSE

The Shawsheen Boys Lacrosse team will also be playing in the upcoming MIAA Tournament, after finishing their regular season with a record of 8-3. The Rams fell just short of winning the CAC title this season after suffering a pair of back to back losses to Lowell Catholic on May 26 and 28, by scores of 4-3 and 7-2 respectively, but they bounced back well with a 19-4 rout of Whittier on June 1, as they tuned up for the tournament.

"We bounced back well against Whittier," Shawsheen coach Chuck Baker said. "The level of competition was not the same, but we will take it. The Whittier game was a good one as well to get many players into a varsity game. This season many of our league opponents did not have JV, so this was one that I was able to get them some time."

The two Lowell Catholic games were tough ones to lose for the Rams, especially the low scoring 4-3 defeat, but Baker felt that his team competed well against their new league rivals.

"This game was crazy, wea lot of missed attempts, great goaltending and defense and it was extremely hot," Baker said. "The day was one of our first 90-degree days, and I felt that both teams played a little sloppy at times. Still, it was fun competition."

The Rams will now await their opponents in the MIAA Tournament. Some schools opted not to play in this year's post season, but for Baker there was no doubt that his team would compete.

"We opted in. We will supposedly get the seedings middle of next week," Baker said. "I feel that if the option to play tournament games is there, all teams should opt in, seeing that the players lost an entire season last year."

As the Rams head to the post season, they will be looking for continued great play from some of their top players, including senior midfielder Dan Lee, who has a team high 26 goals on the season, along with freshman attack Kyle Gray who has 12 goals and sophomore attack Mike Lawson, who has ten.

The Rams have also gotten eight goals from sophomore midfielder Derek Maguire and six each from juniors Kyle Brouillet and Jacob Martins.

Senior Jonah Varallo, meanwhile, has been outstanding in net, with an .824 save percentage.

SOFTBALL

Despite their best efforts, the Shawsheen Tech Softball team has been unable to find their way into the win column as of late, having dropped five straight game to see their record drop to 2-7 on the season.

The Rams most recent loss came last Wednesday in a road game against CAC rival Greater Lowell when they dropped an 8-1 decision.

Despite the lopsided nature of the final score, the game was actually very tight halfway through the contest, until Greater Lowell broke



Northeast's Jasmine Rogers slides safely into third base ahead of the tag by Shawsheen's Reagan Bowden, while Mia Bisso backs up the play. (photo by JoeBrownphotos.com).

Rams Co-Ed Tennis team nets the league title

By MIKE IPPOLITO
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BILLERICA - After a season's worth of hard work, the Shawsheen Tech Co-Ed Tennis team was not about to let a little hot weather keep them from their goal of wrapping up an undefeated season. So, on Monday afternoon at Shawsheen with temperatures soaring above 90 degrees the Rams took to the courts for a doubleheader against Commonwealth Athletic Conference rival Northeast Metro Tech, and did what they have done all season.

They put everything else aside, focused on the task at hand, and took care of business, sweeping the doubleheader by scores of 4-0 and 3-1 to wrap up their season with a perfect 10-0 record and put an exclamation point on their second consecutive CAC title which they had clinched last week.

"I talked to the kids beforehand and just told them that competing in conditions like this will make you a stronger person," Tildsley said. "It had to be 110 degrees on the court, so hydration was big and we had set up some tents, but those were still tough conditions. I just can't say enough about the toughness they showed out there."

More than just toughness, the Rams also showed plenty of talent throughout the season on their way to their league title and undefeated season. Tildsley, in his second year as head coach of the Rams after leading them to the CAC title in his first season back in 2019, knew he had a good team going into the season, but it was hard to envision an undefeated season.

"I definitely did not see that coming," Tildsley said. "Two years ago, we did surprise the league, but there was still some uncertainty this season



The Shawsheen Tech Co-Ed Tennis team captured the league title this past week. The team includes top row from left, John Zembeck, Olivia Venezia, Sara O'Donnell, Ethan Hines, Sam Hines, Daedon Bere, Bobby Dodge, Tyler Newhouse and Coach Tildsley; Bottom row from left, Olivia Bongiovanni, Gabriella DiSalvo, Hailey Rizzuto, Janice Lam, Jasmine Johansen, Sarah Johansen and Christian Rivera. Missing from photo, Jake Glinner and Ilya Butler. (courtesy photo).

with some of the holes we had to fill and then you never know exactly who is going to come out for the team, but we had a lot of kids come out and surprise us this season."

Those players that been the biggest surprises for the Rams all season continued to dominate on Monday, as senior Jake Glinner of Wilmington rolled to victory in first singles in the first match of the day, winning by a score of 6-4 to finish his season undefeated.

"The player that Jake was facing was also undefeated on the season," Tildsley said. "It was a grueling match, but Jake came out on top. He was determined to finish undefeated on the season. He just wouldn't quit, and he showed why he is the strongest leader on our team by far."

With Northeast having a limited roster, the teams did not play doubles matches, instead just playing four singles

matches in each half of the doubleheader. As a result, the first doubles combination of senior Tyler Newhouse of Wilmington and junior Ethan Hines did not get a chance to continue their undefeated season as a duo.

It hardly mattered, however, as both players kept their undefeated record intact, with Newhouse winning 6-0 in the first half of the doubleheader and Hines winning 5-0 in the second half of the twin bill.

Sam's younger brother Ethan, a freshman, also contributed to the Rams win on Monday, winning his third singles match 6-0, while freshman Sarah Johansen earned a 6-2 win in fourth singles to complete the sweep for the Rams.

In the second match of the day, junior John Zembeck completed his undefeated season with a 5-2 win in first singles, while Ethan Hines won

his singles debut by a score of 5-0 and freshman Jasmine Johansen won at third singles by a score of 5-2. Sophomore Olivia Bongiovanni played well but came up on the short end of a 5-2 score in fourth singles.

When Monday's match was over, the Rams were finally able to let go with the celebration they had been building towards all season.

"It was just total excitement for the kids," Tildsley said. "We came in at the start of the season with a goal that we were just going to outwork everyone and see how well we could do. We didn't really know what we had coming in off of a pandemic year, but the kids put in the work to get it done."

Along with the undefeated season for the team, the Rams also had a total of five players go undefeated on the season as individuals or doubles partners, with Glinner,

Zembeck and sophomore Bobby Dodge of Wilmington all accomplishing the feat in singles, while Newhouse and Ethan Hines accomplished the feat in doubles, along with their one singles match apiece.

"I have never seen anything like that, with that many kids going undefeated," Tildsley said. "Especially a kid like Bobby Dodge who is new to the team and Jake Glinner, who even though he is a senior, was in his first season."

Prior to the big win on Monday, the Rams had swept a doubleheader against Nashoba Tech the week before, winning by scores of 4-0 and 3-2 to improve to 8-0 at the time.

Winners for the Rams in the first match of the day were Glinner, Zembeck, Dodge and the combination of Hines and Newhouse, all by score of 5-0. In the second match of the day, the Rams got wins from junior Daedon

Bere in first singles by a score of 5-1, and the duo of sophomores Gabby DiSalvo of Tewksbury and Hailey Rizzuto in doubles, while they also won a match by forfeit.

The future looks very bright for the Shawsheen Tennis program, with many players like Dodge, the Hines brothers, Zembeck and many others returning to the lineup. While Tildsley is looking forward to the future of the tennis program, at the moment he is simply just very proud of what this year's team has accomplished.

"As the year went on, the kids made it their goal to defend their league title and to go undefeated," Tildsley said. "I think the kids were just so excited at the start of the season just to be playing, and then once we started winning, it just turned into something special."

Baseball team's unbeaten streak comes to a halt

FROM B12W

things open with six runs in the bottom of the fourth, turning a 2-1 Gryphons lead into an 8-1 blowout, and the Rams never recovered.

Shawsheen hit the ball well all day, but tough Gryphon defense, and at times, just bad luck did them in. In the second inning, senior Chloe Pereira reached first when a high throw pulled the first baseman off of the bag. She later stole second, and with two outs, sophomore Mia Bisson singled her in for Shawsheen's lone run. Freshman Reagan Bowden had two hits on the day, while junior Ella Malvone of Wilmington could not catch a break as she hit the ball hard three times - twice at people, and the third she was robbed by a diving center-fielder.

Junior pitcher Kayla Mirisola of Tewksbury took the loss for the Rams, going six innings, striking out eight batters, while walking two and letting up five earned runs.

"Speed kills, and they have a lot of it," Shawsheen coach Scott Ialuna said. "We hit the ball hard a lot today, but it was either right at people, or taken away by stellar defense. They made the plays when they needed to."

The Rams will be back in action with three games this week, starting on Thursday when they hit the road to take on Greater Lawrence, before returning home to host the Reggies on Friday and

then closing out their season next Monday with a road game at Whittier.

BASEBALL

On the baseball diamond the Shawsheen Baseball team keeps finding ways to win, sweeping a pair of games with CAC rival Greater Lowell this past week to improve to 11-0 on the season. The Rams started their week with a hard fought 5-4 victory over the Gryphons last Tuesday on the road, before coming back the next night with a big 8-1 win on their home field.

As has been their custom, the Rams jumped out to a quick lead in this one, scoring three times in the top of the first inning, with two of the runs coming on a double by junior Shane Costello of Wilmington. However, Greater Lowell responded with two runs of their own in the first and added one more in the second to tie it up.

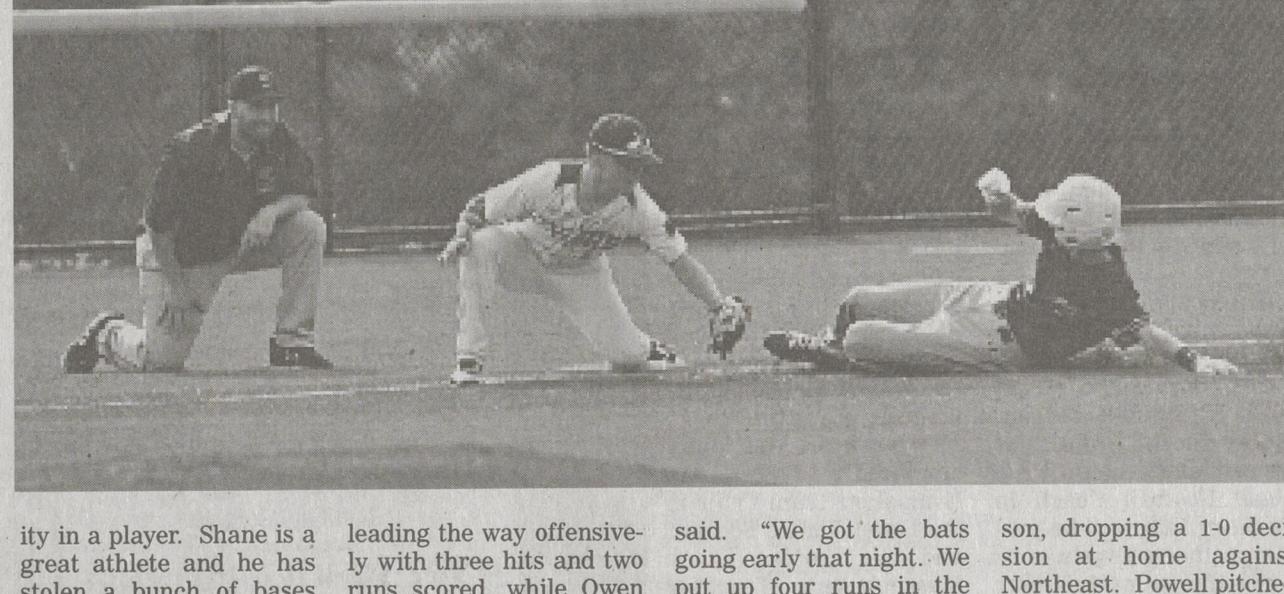
The game stayed that way for a while until the scored a run in the sixth inning and added one more in the seventh on a Connor Maguire RBI single to score Mavrick Bourdeau.

The Rams have prided themselves on getting off to good starts this season, and Costello made sure they continued that trend against Greater Lowell.

"Shane has been a tremendous addition to our team this year. He is a solid all-around player," McCarthy said. "He can play infield or outfield, so it's nice for a coach to have that type of versatil-



Above, Shawsheen's Shane Costello is safe at second with Lynn Tech's Nevin Gonzalez awaiting the throw and Jarod Moore backing up the play; below Costello is out at third. (photos by JoeBrownphotos.com).



ity in a player. Shane is a great athlete and he has stolen a bunch of bases for us this year too. He gets on and then makes things happen."

Wednesday night's win was much more comfortable for the Rams, with Ben Powell leading the way on the mound with another strong effort and Bourdeau once again

leading the way offensively with three hits and two runs scored, while Owen Duggan had two hits and Spencer Sullivan and Matt Hemenway each chipped in with a hit apiece.

"Wednesday night was a great night for baseball. We played under the lights. Powell was on the mound and was efficient as always," McCarthy

said. "We got the bats going early that night. We put up four runs in the first and three more in the second inning."

Powell went five innings on the mound and struck out four to get the win. Costello and Sullivan each pitched an inning in relief.

On Monday of this week, the Rams finally suffered their first loss of the sea-

son, dropping a 1-0 decision at home against Northeast. Powell pitched well in the loss, going the distance while scattering five hits and striking out five. Hemenway and Nick Benson each had a hit for the Rams.

Changes to ice hockey state tournament venue sites; possible football changes

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Editor

jamiepote@hotmail.com
Last Friday morning, the MIAA Ice Hockey Committee met and while the status on the Division 1A tournament still has yet to be ironed out, the group did finalize some matters and make some changes for the upcoming season.

Most of the changes came within the state tournament. Starting this fall, all of high school sports will be switching to the state wide state tournament, so for ice hockey that means the first three rounds of the playoffs will be held at the higher seed's home rink before moving to neutral sites for the state semifinals and final.

In order for the higher seed to host the playoff games, the MIAA set capacity parameters. According to the Boston Herald, "a venue must be able to hold at least 250 people for the first round, 500 for the round of 16 and 1,000 for the round of eight, all of which are subject to approval from the tournament director."

"If the host-team site is not acceptable, the athletic director of the higher seed may find a suitable site. If that is not possible, the lower seed would host, or if neither can be satisfied the tournament director will select a venue."

One additional change is that if games move on to an overtime period, each team will be awarded a timeout, which previously were not permitted. All playoff games will consist of the normal three 15-minute periods, although 17-minute periods had been discussed.

As for overtime, a new rule also went into place

where during regular season games, there will be a five-minute 4-on-4 overtime frame. This was an optional plan this past year for leagues, but now will be implemented across the state. Teams that win in overtime will receive two points and the losing team zero. If the game is still tied at the end of OT, the game is a tie and each team will receive one point.

Regular-season tournaments that require a winner to move on must use the five-minute OT period first, but can request to play to a winner afterward, with both teams receiving one point.

FOOTBALL MEETING

On Tuesday, the MIAA Football Committee met to discuss a number of topics. One of the proposals that came out of the meeting is to expand the State Vocational playoffs to three weeks and increase the amount of participating teams from four to eight. If this proposal were to go through, the plan would be for vocational teams to start playoffs in week ten and continue on to the championship games, which would be held the Thursday and Friday after Thanksgiving Day games.

Also, under this plan, any vocational team that was still competing in the MIAA statewide tournament, would not be eligible.

Another proposal came from Milton head coach Steve Dembrowski, who suggested that if teams don't win at least three games, they would not be eligible for the playoffs. This suggestion will be discussed further at the next meeting.



Sole Sisters gives out five scholarships to local athletes

The SoleSisters Running Club of Wilmington recently presented scholarships of \$1,000 to local high school seniors on behalf of the club. This year there were many applicants, and the Board of Directors decided on five well deserving winners including Makayla Paige and Izzie Carleton of Tewksbury, Cassidy Elliott and Shelby Bourdeau of Billerica and Molly Dugan of Wilmington.

Paige is a four-year member of the Tewksbury Memorial High School cross-country, and winter and track programs. She served as team captain for all three teams, and as well has been a top performer in the state. She will be continuing her running with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall.

Carleton is a three-year member of the TMHS Girls cross-country and indoor and outdoor track teams. She served as captain for track teams during this past calendar year. She will be attending UMass-Lowell studying nursing this fall. Her Mom Kathy is a long time runner and member of the SoleSisters.

Cassidy Elliott competed on the Billerica Memorial High School cross-country and indoor and outdoor

track teams for all four years. She will continue her studies at Assumption University.

Bourdeau was a four-year member of the Shawsheen Tech spring track team. She will be attending Worcester State University studying Nursing.

Dugan competed all four years on the Austin Prep cross-country and winter and spring track teams, a captain of all three teams. Molly plans to continue her studies at Boston College. Board Member Nicolle Renick served as Molly's winter and spring track coach at Austin Prep.

The club is proud to award five \$1,000 scholarships to graduating female High School runners from the Wilmington, Burlington, Billerica, and Tewksbury communities. For sure this is one of our favorite days of the year as we're privileged to give back to the communities who are us- our own members. We congratulate Makayla, Isabelle, Cassidy, Shelby, and Molly and wish them success.

For any female runners, joggers, walkers in the communities nearby - please check us out at www.solesisters01887.com.



Florence named new football coach at AP

READING, MA — Austin Prep has appointed John Florence as the school's new Head Football Coach. Florence assumes the helm of the program after serving as the team's Defensive Coordinator last season and after nearly a decade as Head Football Coach at Lowell High School.

"It was important to find the right fit for our football program and School community, and Coach Florence is just that. He truly cares about the well-being of our student-athletes," Director of Athletics Patrick Driscoll said. "Over the past year, he has done exceptional work in building relationships with the team. It's a pleasure to have him part of the Austin Prep community."

Florence takes over for Mike Foley, who served as the Interim Head Football Coach during the recent Fall II football season. Billy Tucker, who was named the Austin Prep Head Football Coach in January 2019, will be pursuing other interests.

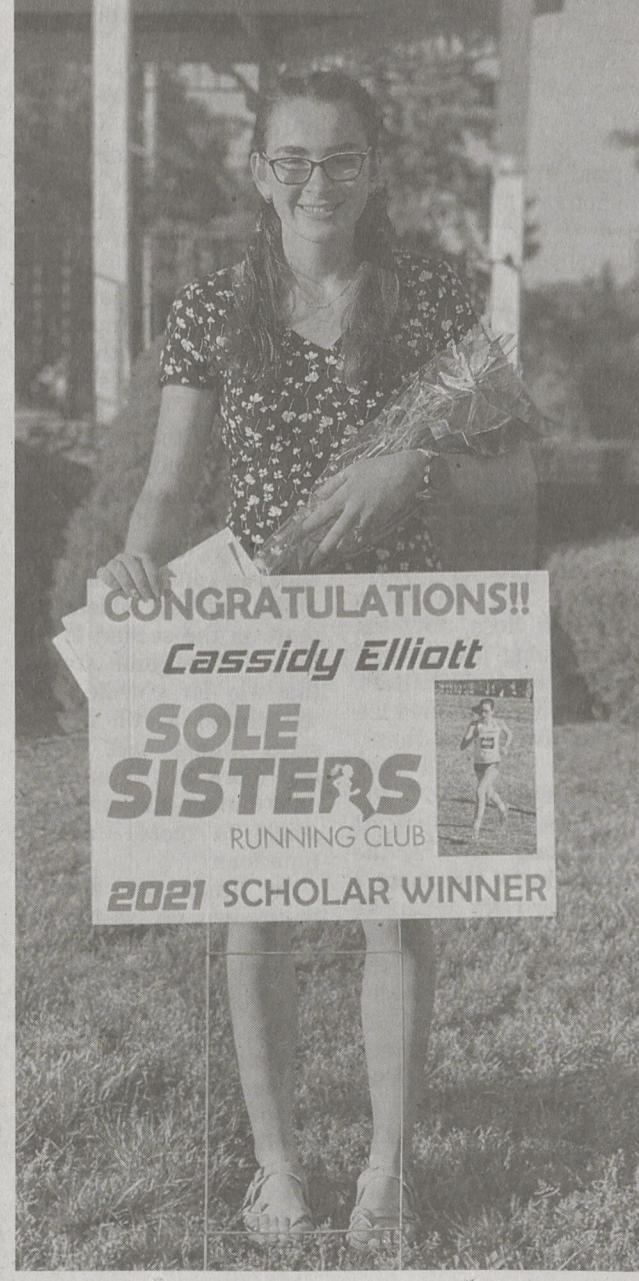
"We thank Coach Tucker for his commitment to Austin Prep and those within the football program, and wish him well in his future endeavors," Driscoll said.

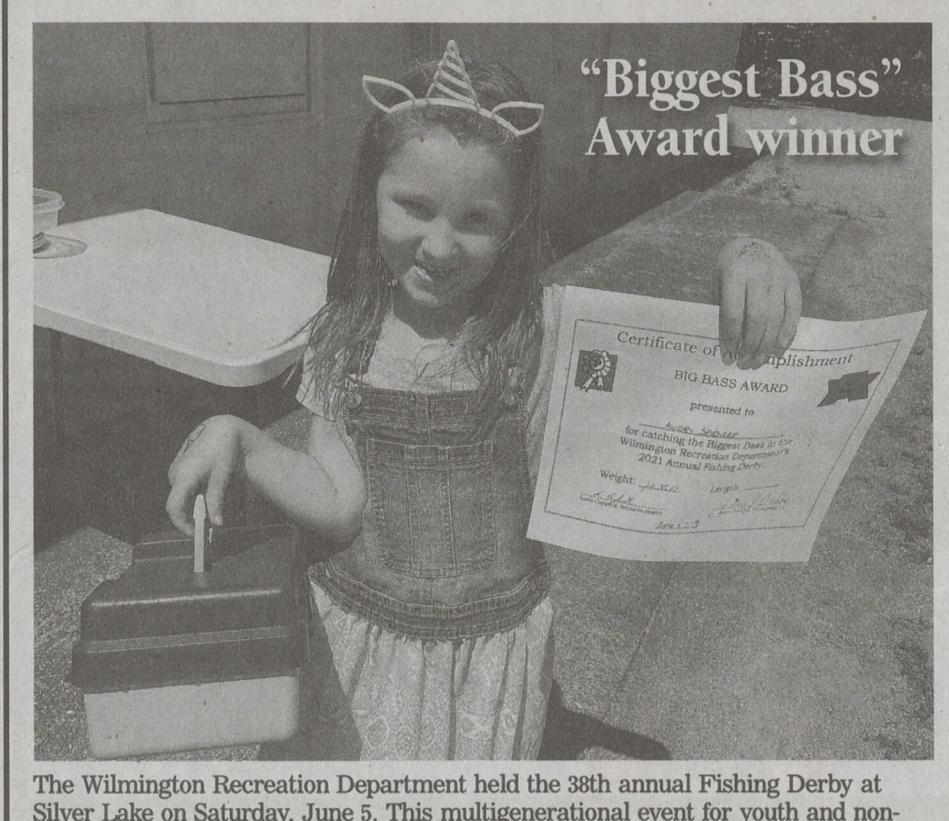
From 2011 to 2019, Florence served as the Head Football Coach at Lowell High School, where

he oversaw all aspects of the program including game planning, practice planning, and hiring of staff. Participating in the perennially tough Merrimack Valley Conference, Florence's tenure included an appearance in the Division I North semifinals in 2013 and a share of the Merrimack Valley Conference Division I title in 2012 with a 9-2 record.

"I'm extremely excited and honored to become the Head Football Coach at Austin Prep. Austin Prep has state of the art facilities and a wonderful campus," Florence said. "During the Fall II season I was fortunate to meet and coach so many great kids at Austin Prep. I look forward to working with the administration and leadership to develop the culture of the football program and to work with the student-athletes in the program at Austin Prep."

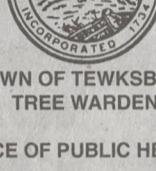
Florence is currently employed as an Evaluation Team Chair in the Lowell Public Schools, and holds a Massachusetts Teaching License for Special Needs 5-12. He earned a B.S. degree from Bridgewater State College and a M.Ed. from Cambridge College, and has held other coaching positions at Dracut High School and the Groton School.



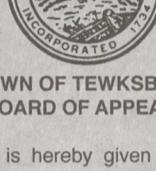


The Wilmington Recreation Department held the 38th annual Fishing Derby at Silver Lake on Saturday, June 5. This multigenerational event for youth and non-professional adults began in 1983. The Derby allows the town to showcase its finest natural resource while participants have a chance to learn or improve their fishing skills. Reeling in the "Biggest Bass" were six-year old Avery Spencer (pictured) with a 12.4 oz. beauty while Jen Kenney topped the adult entries in this category with a catch weighing 12.2 oz. Winning entries in the non-Bass category were Drew Drozdowski (age 9) catching a 6.7 oz. sunfish and Zach Dancewicz (adult) with a 5.2 oz. sunfish. Experienced and novice anglers alike had a great time at this shore-fishing event. The Recreation Department would like to thank Jim Buckley and Sean Theodos for their assistance in planning and supervising the Derby – and removing the hooks from the fish that really swallowed them! Thanks to Pets Plus in Tewksbury for their generous bait donation. (Courtesy photo)

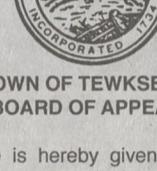
LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
TREE WARDEN

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), Chapter 87, Public Shade Tree Law, Section 3 (Cutting of Public Shade Trees; Hearing; Damages), the Town of Tewksbury Tree Warden will hold a Public Hearing regarding the removal of public shade trees on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tewksbury DPW, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, MA. Any person interested or wishing to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated or submit a written objection with your name and address prior to the date and time listed.

The location of town trees affected include: (1) Oak at 35 Bellevue Road, (1) Pine at 1352 Whipple Road, (1) Oak at 36 Astle Street, (2) Oaks at 145 Whittemore Street and (3) Pines at 86 / 96 Algonquin Road.

For further information regarding location, size and species of the affected trees, is available weekdays at the Department of Public Works, Town Hall and Library during normal business hours; and on the Town's website www.tewksbury-ma.gov.

Brian Gilbert
Superintendent
of Public Works
210694 6/9/16/21

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on June 24, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Janice S. Harmen, heir of Paul K. Lebrun (deceased) under MA General Laws, Chapter 40A, Section 8 as a party aggrieved by a decision made by the Building Inspector in a letter dated April 6, 2021 to facilitate the separation and sale of two individual lots.

Said property is located at 1176 South Street/Rounsville Road, Assessor's Map 109, Lots 53 & 54, zoned Residential.

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Robert Dugan, Chairman
210687 6/9/16/21

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on June 24, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876 on an application filed by Evelyn and Cleidomar Da Silva for a variance from Section 4130, Appendix B, for front yard setbacks and Section 4132 for allowed maximum lot coverage as well as a special permit under Section 3651 to increase the existing non-conforming structure, of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw to construct a 28'x 12'2" patio roof as shown on plans filed with this Board.

Said property is located at 24 Algonquin Drive, Assessor's Map 98, Lot 17, zoned Residential.

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org.

Robert Dugan, Chairman
210697 6/9/16/21

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website. To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to: www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN ON THE APPLICATION OF PHILIP GIAMPIETRO OF WALDEN LOCAL, INC. OF 1661 SHAWSCHEEN ST, TEWKSBURY MA TO BE A PUBLIC WAREHOUSE WITHIN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX OF TOWN OF TEWKSBURY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING A GENERAL WAREHOUSE BUSINESS AS PROVIDED IN CHAPTER 105 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS. 210726 6/16/23/21

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Annual Return of the Shaun P. Scully Scholarship Fund, Inc. for the year ending December 31, 2020 is available at the address noted below for inspection during normal business hours by any citizen who so requests within 180 days after publication of the notice of its availability.

Shaun P. Scully
Scholarship Fund, Inc.
314 Main Street, Suite: 201
Wilmington, MA 01887
The Principal Manager is Michael C. Scully. Telephone (978) 657-5655.

210709 6/16/21

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI21P2894EA

Estate of:
Dorothy Claire Calabro
Also known as:
Dorothy C. Calabro
Date of Death: 03/07/2021

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Richard P. Calabro, Sr. of Concord MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Richard P. Calabro, Sr. of Concord MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/02/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
210719 6/16/21

210727 6/16/21

210712 6/16/21

Charles F. Williams, Jr., Trustee of Williams Family Trust. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 7 Linda Rd., shown as Parcel 78 on Assessors' Map 88, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 23837, P. 277. 2020 tax (bal) \$476.06

Michael J. Gracia and Julie A. Gracia, Remainder, Frank J. Gracia and Nora P. Gracia, Life Estate. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 1302 Lords Ct., shown as Parcel 30 on Assessors' Map 106, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 9703, P. 245. 2020 tax \$638.26

John J. Haskell and Joann R. Haskell. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 136 Federal St., shown as Parcel 12 on Assessors' Map 77, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 2019, P. 140. 2020 tax (bal) \$4,606.25

Jennifer J. Antczak and Mary E. Antczak. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 34 Brentwood Ave., shown as Parcel 58 on Assessors' Map 48, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 24618, P. 150. 2020 tax (bal) \$5,411.68

David M. Sullivan and Elizabeth A. Sullivan. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 31 Park St., shown as Parcel 63 on Assessors' Map 45, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 7781, P. 73. 2020 tax (bal) \$4,454.47

Evona, LLC. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 603 Main St., shown as Parcel 138A on Assessors' Map 41, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 24618, P. 150. 2020 tax (bal) \$5,411.68

Helen T. Shay, Life Estate, Susan Shay and Michael M. Shay. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 31 Park St., shown as Parcel 69 on Assessors' Map 92, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 9180, P. 255. 2020 tax (bal) \$54.64

David Carpenito. Land in said Wilmington at 21 Pembroke St., shown as Parcel 37 on Assessors' Map 16, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 8660, P. 298. 2020 tax \$129.01

Elizabeth A. Bernardo and Antonio M. Bernardo. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 166 Lake St., shown as Parcel 18D on Assessors' Map 22, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 18782, P. 39. 2020 tax (bal) \$822.43

Francis E. Downs, Jr. and Pamela J. Ward Downs. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 70 West St., shown as Parcel 4 on Assessors' Map 73, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 9228, P. 21. 2020 tax (bal) \$374.67

Yvonne Lagomarsino. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 5 Brentwood Ave., shown as Parcel 63 on Assessors' Map 8, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 5069, P. 332. 2020 tax (bal) \$1,523.99

Wayne H. Francis and Jaye P. Francis. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 16 Sherwood Rd., shown as Parcel 39 on Assessors' Map 8, being Lots 209 to 211 on Ld. Ct. Pl. 10921-B, sh. 1, filed with Cert. 26554, described in Mx. No. Dist. Cert. of Title 44873, B. 227, P. 100. Outstanding in the name of: Peter Marroni and Marianne Tirico. 2020 tax (bal) \$2,141.38

Charles M. Gill and Jeanne M. Mazzeo. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 5 Phillips Ave., shown as Parcel 87 on Assessors' Map 44, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 9676, P. 78. 2020 tax (bal) \$842.64

Brian Colby and Rosa M. Gill. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 15 Verdun Rd., shown as Parcel 62 on Assessors' Map 57, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 33070, P. 196. Supposed subsequent owner: Hari Kafle. 2020 tax (bal) \$1,555.23

Elizabeth A. Bernardo and Antonio M. Bernardo. Land in said Wilmington, with the buildings thereon, at 166 Lake St., shown as Parcel 18D on Assessors' Map 22, described in Mx. No. Dist. Deeds, B. 18782, P. 39. 2020 tax (bal) \$822.43

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2018 Honda Accord	\$18,998
2014 Toyota Avalon	\$19,998
2017 Honda Civic	\$19,998
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2012 Toyota Rav 4 Base	2015 Kia Sorento LX AWD	2018 Hyundai Elantra SEL	2019 Kia Optima LX	2018 Kia Sportage LX FWD
Silver 82K miles \$13,998	Satin Metal 73K miles \$14,998	Machine Gray 12K miles! \$16,998	Sparkling Silver 12K miles \$17,998	Mineral Silver 27K miles \$17,998
2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2017 Jeep Renegade Latitude	2018 Hyundai Tucson SEL AWD	2018 Kia Sportage LX
Pacific Blue 29K miles \$18,998	Pacific Blue 29K miles \$18,998	AWD • Green 20K miles \$18,998	Dazzling White 40K miles \$19,998	AWD, Silver 7K miles \$19,998
2018 Ford Ecosport SES AWD	2015 Jeep Cherokee Altitude 4x4	2019 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Jaguar F-Pace 30T Prem.	2017 Infiniti QX80 5.7L AWD
Smoke Metallic 26K miles \$20,998	Granite Crystal 98K miles \$21,998	Hyper Red 27K miles \$22,998	Gray 27K miles \$37,998	White 57 miles \$42,998
2013 Hyundai Elantra GLS	2017 Toyota Camry SE	2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2015 Subaru Outback Limited
\$8,998	\$17,998	\$19,998	\$19,998	K3120, Auto., Blue, 55K miles \$21,998
2015 Ford Focus Hatchback SE	2020 Kia Soul LX	2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Kia Sportage EX AWD	2018 Kia Sportage EX AWD
\$8,998	\$19,998	\$19,998	\$19,998	K3131, Auto., White, 27K miles \$24,998
2014 Chevy Impala LT	2018 Kia Optima LX	2019 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Toyota RAV XLE AWD	2018 Toyota RAV XLE AWD
\$11,998	\$19,998	\$20,998	\$19,998	13968A, Auto., Blue, 18K miles \$25,998
2015 Mazda CX-5 Touring	2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Kia Sportage LX AWD	2018 Chevy Tahoe LT w/Sun.	2018 Chevy Tahoe LT w/Sun.
\$13,998	\$19,998	\$20,998	\$20,998	14048A, Auto., Ent. Pkg., Black, 37K mi. \$48,998

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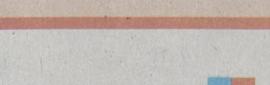
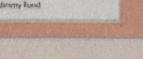
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▲ Patrick O'Mahony (center), Tyler Fenton (rear) and Chris Wong (right, facing camera) (photo: BruceHilliard.com)

Congratulations Wilmington Class of 2021

Wilmington High School celebrates the Class of 2021

By CASEY STEVENSON
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Wilmington High School held its commencement ceremony on a sunny Sunday morning, June 6, 2021.

It took place outdoors on the football field, and the graduates were marched in two lines as family and friends cheered. The students were decked out in mixtures of blue and white robes, stoles, and beautifully decorated caps.

The first to speak was Linda Peters, Wilmington High School's principal. She greeted the graduates, staff, speakers and families and thanked them for the impact they had on the graduates.

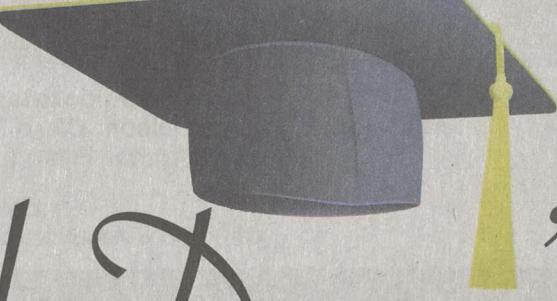
Graduate Christopher Wong was called to the stage to lead a remembrance in honor of James Rooney, who would have been walking that same stage with the 2021 graduates.

Wong described James as "a close friend, and I know he's missed by countless people who are here."

The Rooney family had also been present at the ceremony, which was thanked and acknowledged by Principal Peters.

Colton Sullivan, Class President, addressed his class, thanking everyone who supported and impacted the Class of 2021 throughout their time in the halls of Wilmington High School.

"We graduated high

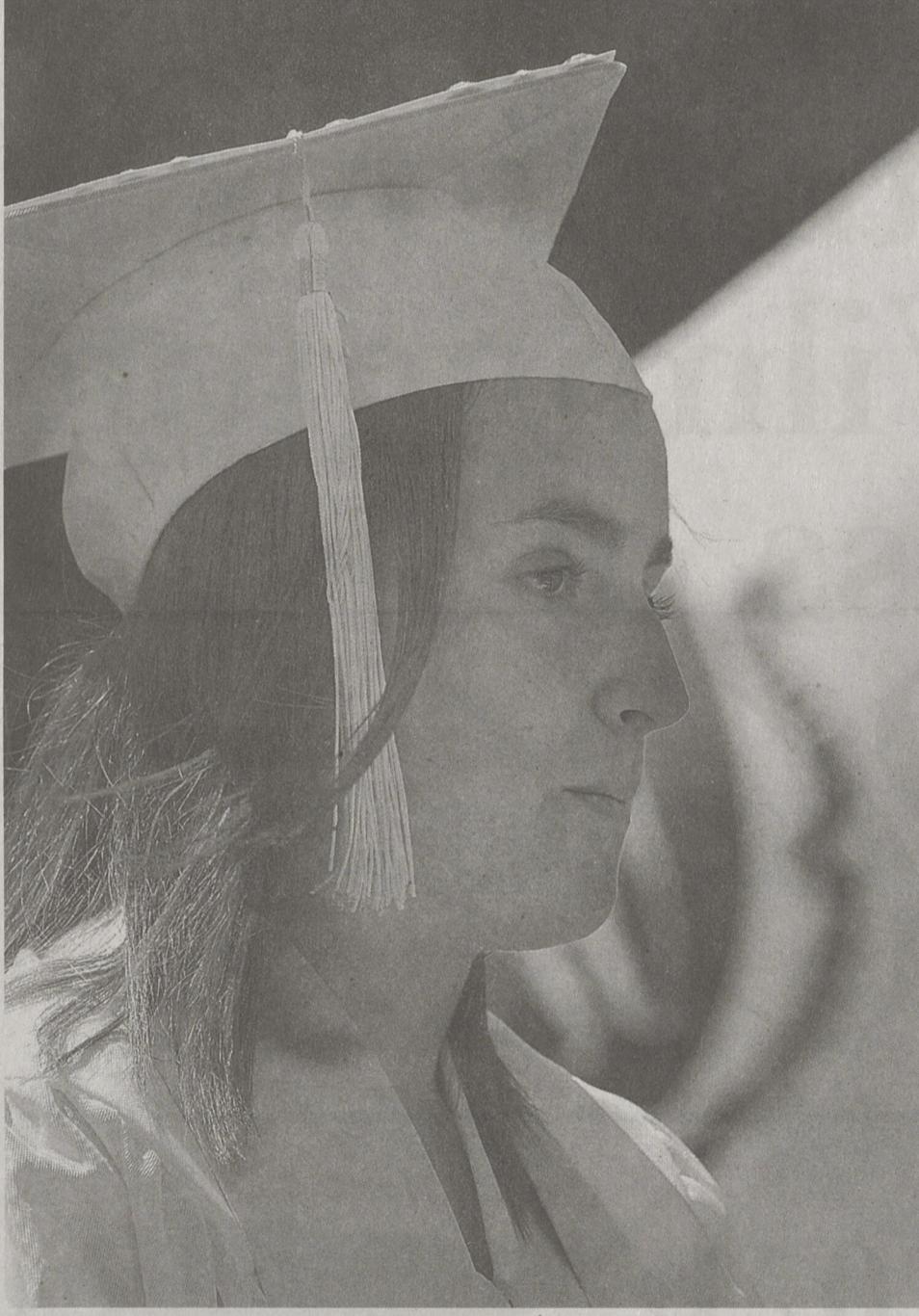
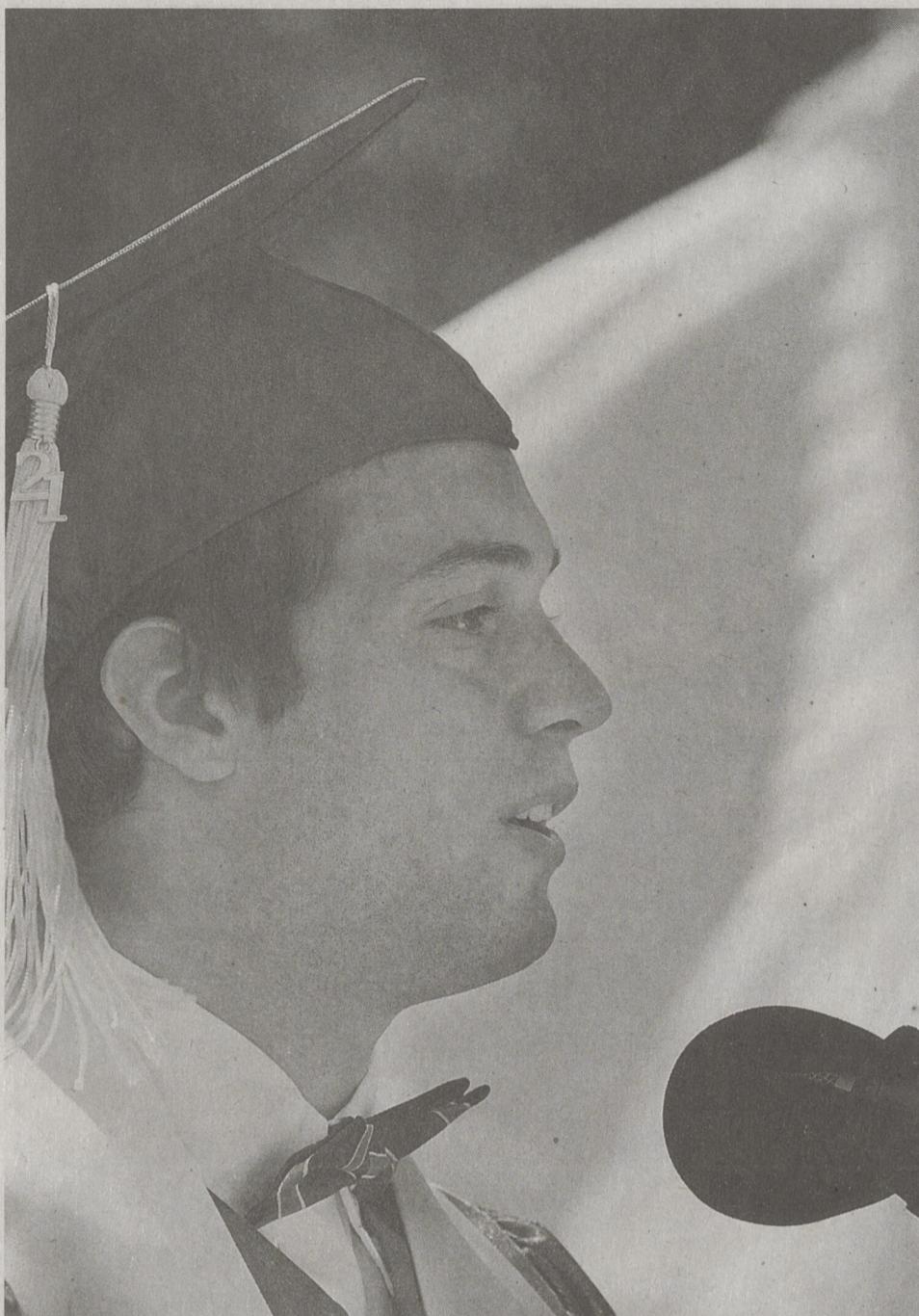
Class of 2021

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▲ Counterclockwise from top right, this page:
Salutatorian, Miriam Nelson; Class President, Colton Sullivan;
Essayist, Amber Flynn (photos: BruceHilliard.com)

▼ Below, Chase Andersen (left),
Chikaodili Amakor (center) and Faraz Ali (right)



Wilmington High School celebrates the Class of 2021

CELEBRATE FROM 1W

school! That's a weird sentence to say. From kindergarten to twelfth grade, 13 years, and throughout all of that, I look around and I see the same faces looking back. The faces of friends, and the best people I know."

Town Manager Jeffrey Hull spoke about how the Class of 2021 has endured a significant amount of chaos in their short time in life, from the effects of 9/11 to the COVID-19 pandemic. But the graduates learned, perhaps in spite of or due to, as he mentions, in the realms of academics and beyond, that they will continue to learn as life progresses on.

He also advises them to learn "a few skills that perhaps are not learned at school, and oftentimes not focused on in life. And that is listening to hear and building relationships."

Jennifer Bryson, Chair on the School Committee, next addressed the class, remarked on how honored and proud the committee members have been in watching the Class of 2021, and also recognizing their resilience, optimism, leadership, and hopefulness, even in the face of a global pandemic.

Superintendent Glenn Brand was introduced, as he spoke about the overwhelming spirit Wilmington Wildcats exhibit, and

how that spirit is contagious throughout all aspects of the community. He also shared with the graduates that he hopes that the lessons learned over the past 16 months will guide them, along with the teachings imparted on them by Wilmington High School, to greatness.

He recognized the efforts made by Principal Peters to return to as much of a normal as they could, and adapt to make the senior experience unique and special.

Peters delivered her speech, reflecting on the journey she and the Class of 2021 took together, starting with the August ninth grade orientation, the moments they shared throughout the proceeding four years spanning sporting events, prom, and regular school days, and ending at commencement. She ensures that she has enjoyed and will forever cherish the times they spent together, even with the global pandemic.

Peters additionally told the graduates how proud of them she is, how they have learned so much from each other, and how she could not have gotten through educating in a pandemic without the support and enthusiasm of the graduating class. A memorable remark from her speech is as follows:

"There are many ways by which you can measure

your success in life, but I have found that it is not what you have accomplished, and not only who you are, but with whom you are sharing your life. Life is a gift, accept it, love it, share it."

The awards were then presented to the top performing seniors of the class. The first award went to Amber Flynn, Essayist. Flynn spoke about how the graduates should reflect on their high school journey and the lessons they learned, as they depart on their separate ways. And she talked about how the upperclassmen of past years had been mentors for the Class of 2021, and how the class should keep in mind that they have been mentors for the underclassmen.

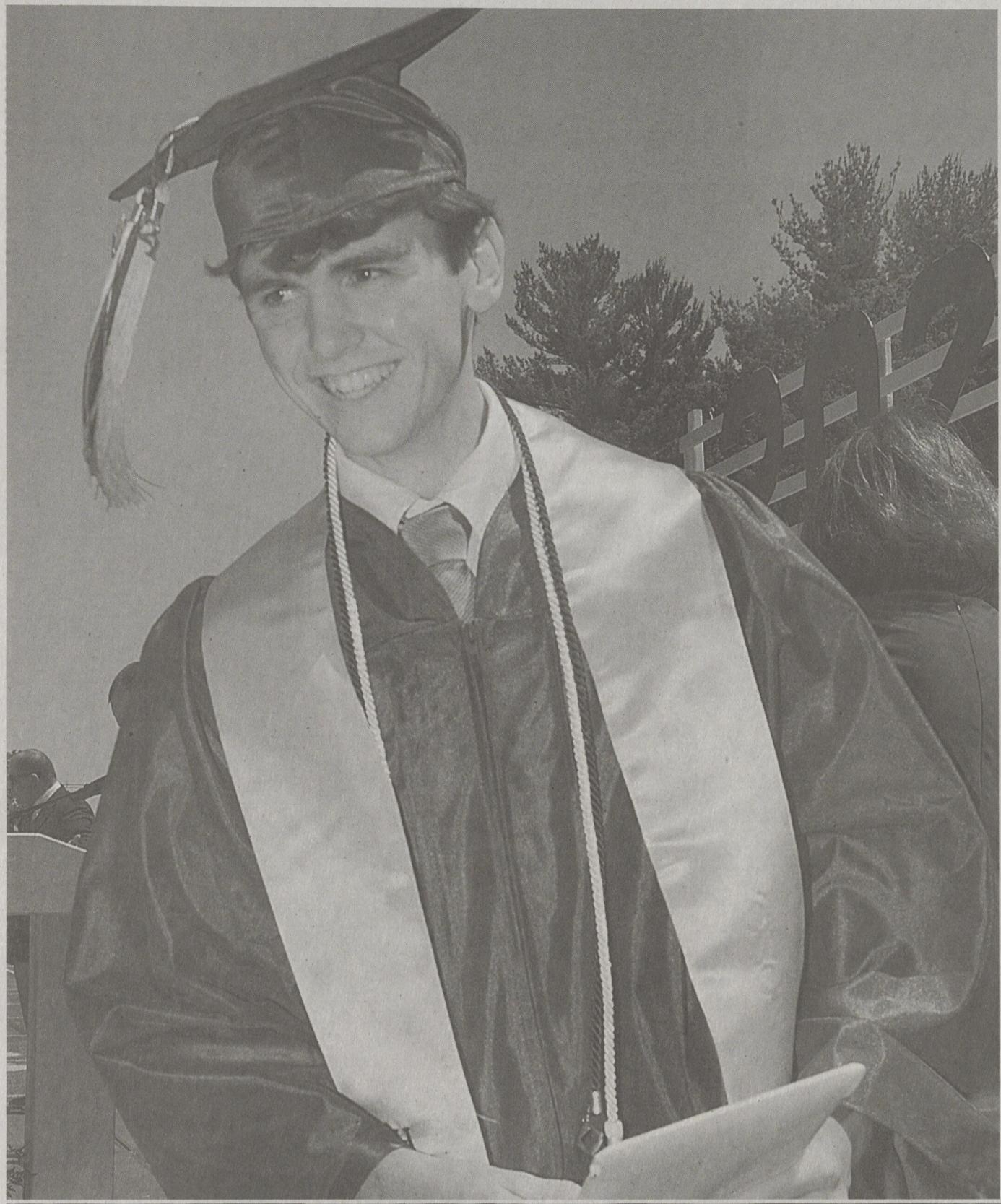
The Salutatorian award was presented to Miriam Nelson. In her speech, she delved into the successes of the class, both pre-COVID and during remote learning. Making a unique comparison between a rubber sticky-hand toy stuck to the ceiling of a classroom, and the Class of 2021 clinging to high school and growing more spirited as they did so. She remarked that the memories they made will bond the class together long after they leave the halls of WHS.

The Valedictorian, Jesse Ding, spoke about the "grit and tenacity of our class." She thanked parents, the teachers, and the School Committee for their support of the class. She additionally spoke about the memories they made, and the classes legacy at WHS, as the actions they took will have a ripple effect on the school for generations to come.

The diplomas were then handed out, and the graduation ceremony concluded with the traditional graduation cap tassel shift, a declaration of graduation, cap toss, and well deserved hugs among the graduates and their families.

The *Wilmington Town Crier* congratulates the Wilmington High School Class of 2020. Their hard work and perseverance should be recognized and celebrated, and best of luck in all of their future endeavors.

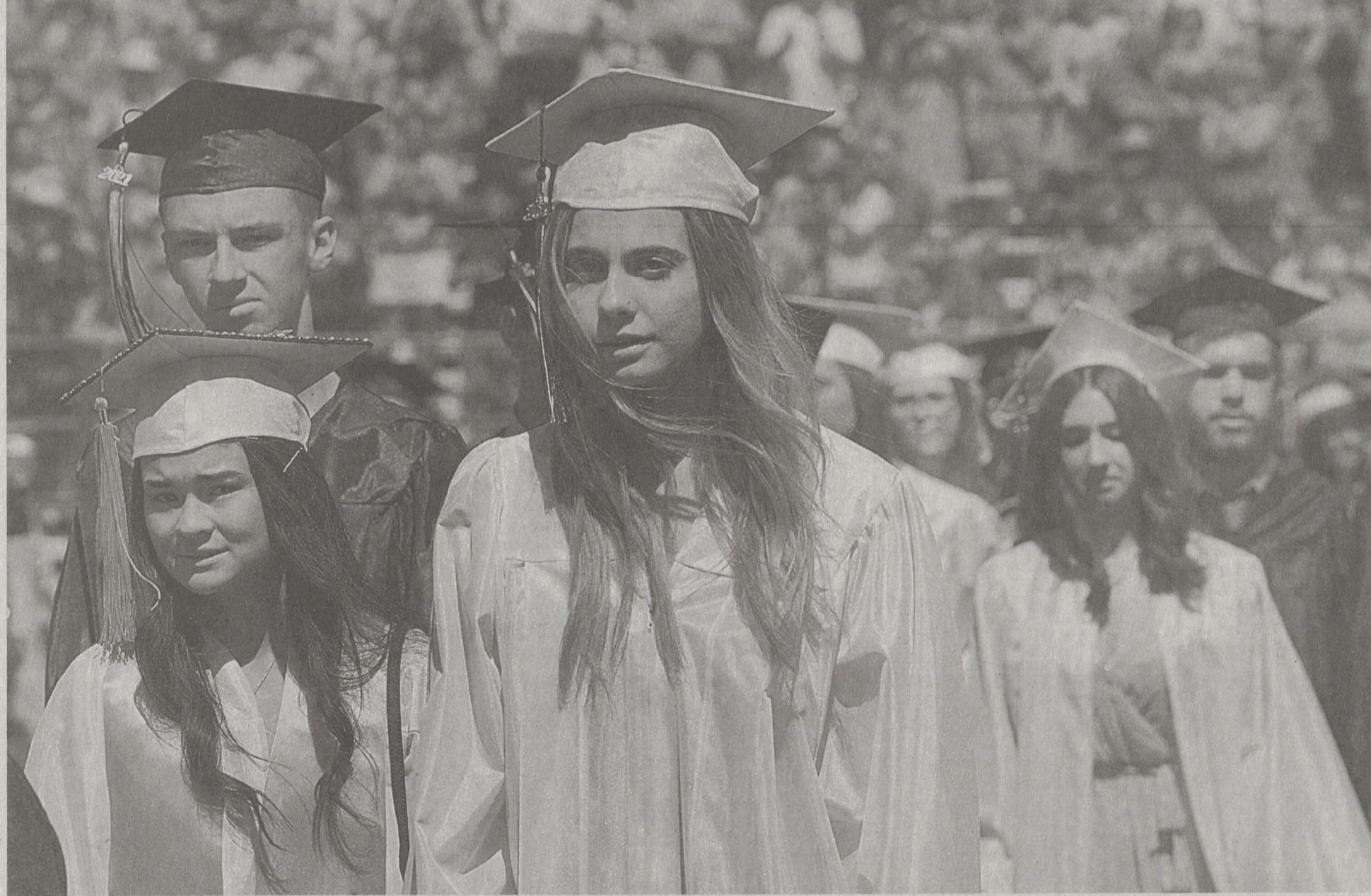
RJ



◀ Patrick O'Mahony

▼ Annie Lagunilla (left),
Ashley Lamonica (center)
and Justin Lafauci (behind left)

(photos: BruceHilliard.com)



CONGRATS TO ALL 2021 GRADUATES!

Wishing you all the best as you make your move to the next chapter.

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A large black and white photograph of a young woman from behind, wearing a graduation cap and gown. To the right of the image is the Salem Five logo and contact information.

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Wilmington Valedictorian Jesse Ding delivers address to class at commencement

By CASEY STEVENSON
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Newly graduated Jesse Ding has been named as the Valedictorian for Wilmington High School's 2021 graduating class.

During Ding's time at Wilmington High School, she demonstrated excellence in the arts by earning awards in the Reading Municipal Art Department via art contests over the years, such as the Global Community Award her freshman year, first place in a contest her junior year, and third place in 2021.

She additionally earned a Boston Globe Scholastic Art Award her freshman year. In her senior year, she was among the two students earning the Massachusetts of School Superintendents Academic Excellence Award, and among the two Wilmington students Commended by the National Merit Scholarship Program.

Friends describe her as a remarkable person who deserves to be celebrated, as well as an extremely talented student and artist.

As is tradition for top performing students in their graduating class, Ding was asked to give a speech at commencement upon the acceptance of her Valedictorian award.

Ding, in robes of white and a golden stole, was cheered by friends, peers, faculty, and family as she walked towards the stage to address her fellow peers.

These were the words she imparted upon her former classmates:

"Good morning everyone, I would like to first congratulate the graduates of 2021. While there were some bumps along the way, such as a global pandemic, we finally made it! I want to applaud the grit and tenacity of our class."

"However, we couldn't have done it without the support from the people around us, and the Wilmington community. I would like to thank all the school workers, administrators, and teachers. Without you all, we wouldn't have been able to go through the entirety of our high school experience."

"I would also like to thank all our parents and families. You have truly seen us grow and become the young adults we have become today. My words pale in comparison to the

efforts and sacrifices that you have all made, in order to ensure that we would receive a higher education and a brighter future."

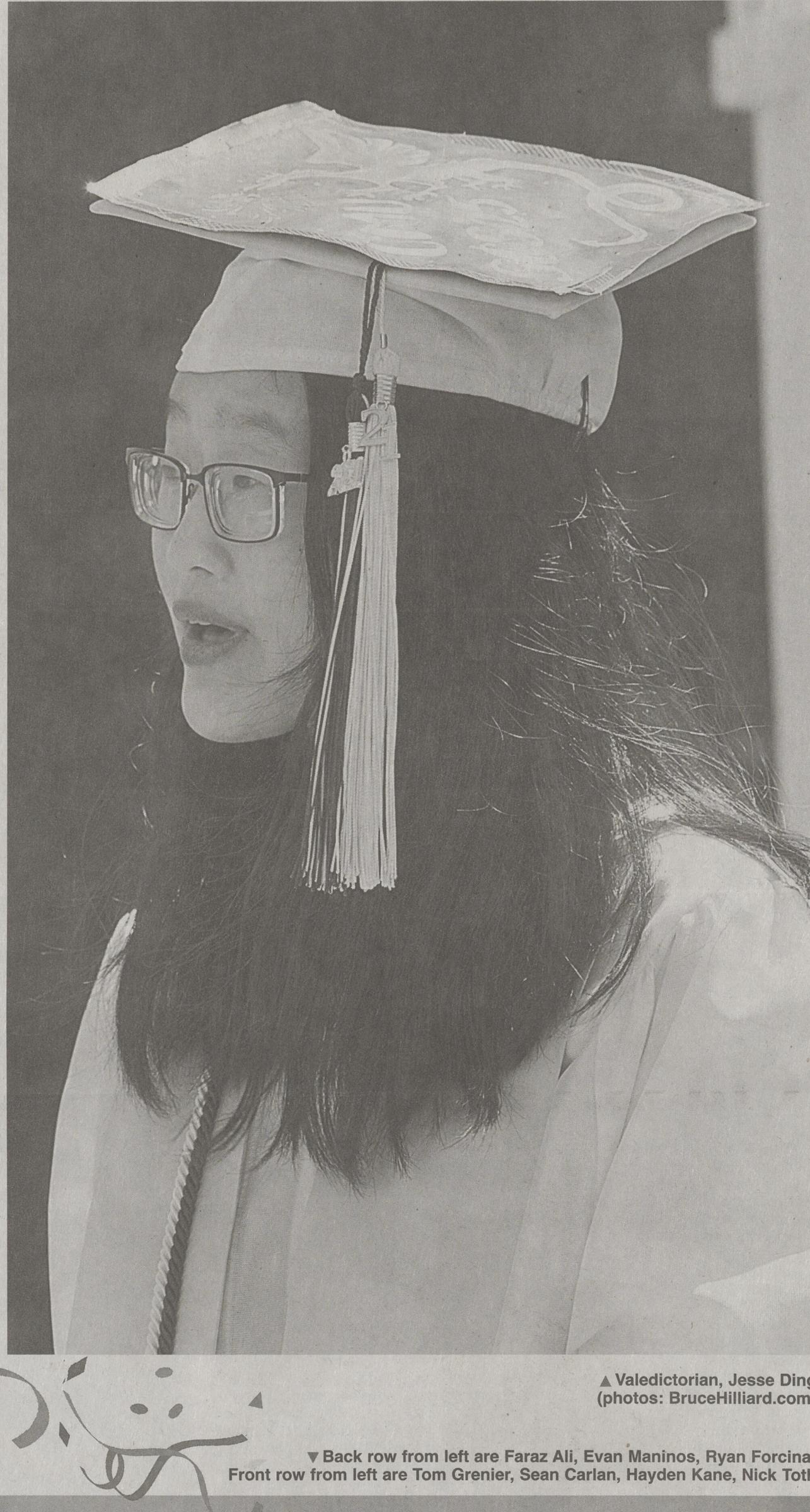
"Time truly passes by fast; it feels like it was yesterday, when we were young freshmen walking into the high school for the first time. I realize that we can't take anything for granted, like the cookies at Munchie's, experiences with our friends, the small conversations with our teachers, and so much more. These moments are short and fleeting."

"Ultimately, we aren't remembered for the things we haven't done, but rather the actions we took, and the words we said. Whether we realize it or not, the actions that we take cause ripples of change beyond our personal frequencies. We all have the capability to create change, whether it is on a personal level, or a larger scale. It then becomes our choice to decide whether to sit and watch from the sidelines, or actively take initiative."

"As we receive our diplomas today, a sign of our initial steps to become mature individuals out into the world, it becomes our own decision to choose what kind of impact we want to make. We all have the potential to direct the path we want to take in our lives, influence the people around us, and leave behind a legacy for future generations."

"However, it becomes our responsibility to decide how we will exercise that potential. Congratulations and good luck to the Wilmington High School Class of 2021. Thank you."

Post graduation, Ding will be pursuing a higher education, and Wilmington wishes her luck and will be eagerly awaiting to see all she accomplishes in her career.

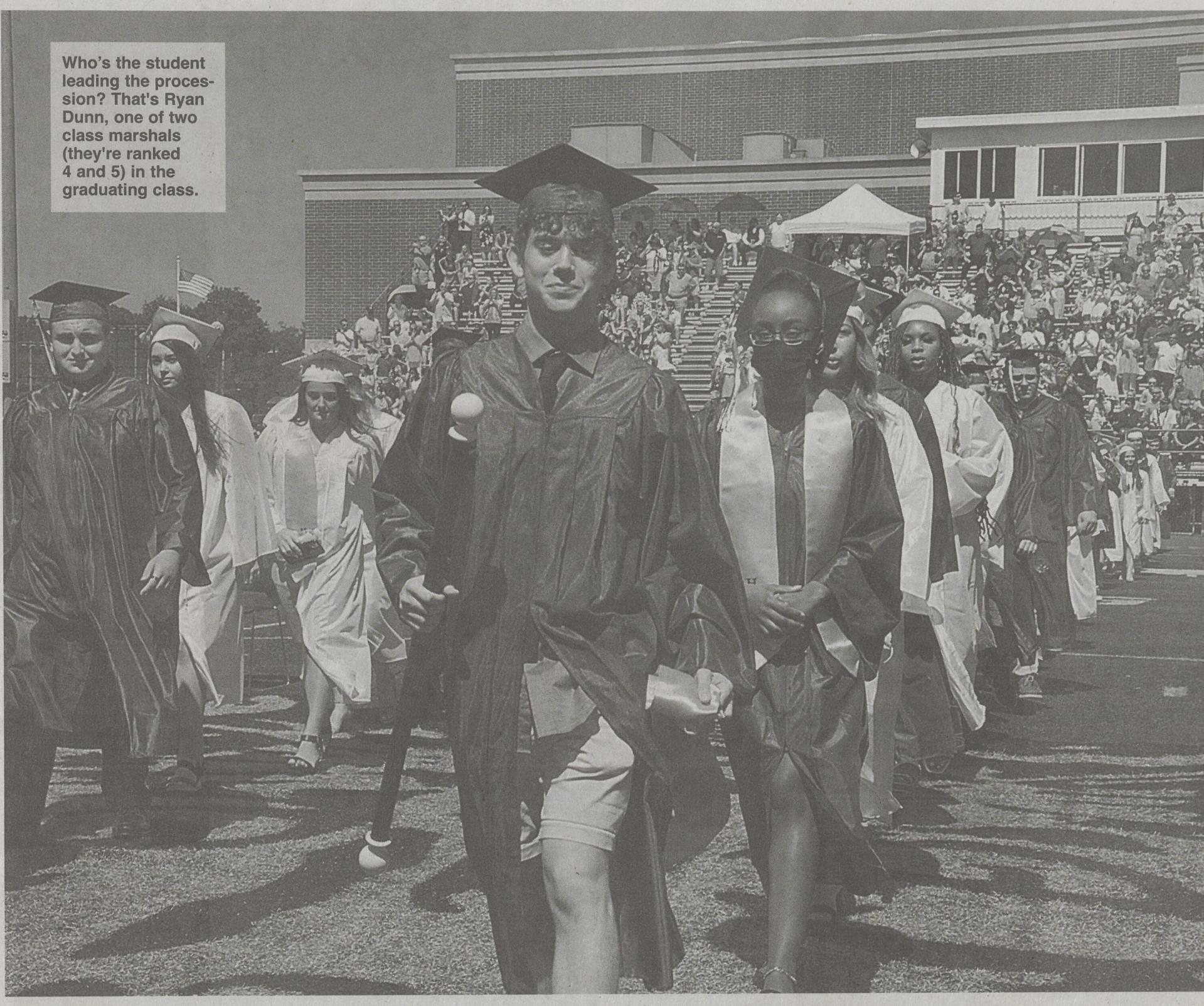


▲ Valedictorian, Jesse Ding
(photos: BruceHilliard.com)

▼ Back row from left are Faraz Ali, Evan Maninos, Ryan Forcina;
Front row from left are Tom Grenier, Sean Carlan, Hayden Kane, Nick Toth



Who's the student leading the procession? That's Ryan Dunn, one of two class marshals (they're ranked 4 and 5) in the graduating class.



Wilmington High School's graduating class of *2021*

The Wilmington Town Crier sends their sincerest congratulations to the following Wilmington High School graduates, and wishes them luck in all future endeavors.

Aaliyah Fiyona Abel
Mileyyna Sophia Acevedo
Faraz Mir Ali
Chika Adaora Amakor
Chase Katherine Andersen
Isaac Avila
Thomas Eric Baldi
Cameron Joseph Banks
Julia Theresa Barry
Madison Olivia Beatty
Jared Dennis Benoit
Christopher Louis Bernazani
Jason Tyler Berube
Ida Marie Bishop
Alexia Eleni Bittarelli
Larissa Lee Bonney
Demitri Theo Bouras
Maggie Rose Bourgeois
Kyle Thomas Breen
Alyson Nicole Broussard
Isabella Brown
Antonia Brunetto
Ashlyn Rita Buckley
Conor Falcon Byrnes
Erika Cynclaire Byrnes
Israel Nehemiah Camara
Leah Katherine Camara
Domenic Michael Caples
Isabella Maria Capozzi
Sean Matthew Carlan
Samuel Edward Cedrone
Alison Marie Celata
Dylan Vincent Clerico
Meghan Elizabeth Consorti
Jillian Jean Cornell
Makayla Marie Costa
Robert James Courtney
Ashley Kathryn Crawford
Lauren Lucy D'Arco
Jason Davey
Mia Ella DeMarco
Olivia Loren Dennett
Zoe Shea DeRose
Matthew Frank DeSario
Peter J. DiAdamo
Landrick Reyes Diaz
Jesse Ding
Cal George DiPesa
Justin Michael Doran
Kylie Nicole DuCharme
Brian Thomas Dunfey
Ryan Spencer Dunn
Ava Elizabeth Elliott
Ray Christina Ely
Joseph Paul Evans
Khrystyna Fedynyak
Tyler Philip Fenton
Alex Brady Fitzler
Amber Antosia Flynn
Ryan Christopher Forcina

Krista Lillian Gabaree
John Michael Gaglione
Andrew Gallucci
Derek Gallucci
Joseph Mark Ganley
Colin Robert Gates
Victoria Marie Gemellaro
Kaitlyn Margaret Gillespie
Brent N. Goodman
Zachary Edward Goodwin
Sarah Jean Gray
Thomas Raymond Grenier
Jessica Anne Hayduk
Justin Joseph Healey
Maria Kelly Hernandez

Michael R. Hersom
Alexa Marie Hobal
Courtney Elizabeth Hogue
Alexander Geoffrey Howlett
Parker William Howlett
Anja Yvonne Jensen
Jackson Sibley Jones
Samuel Chu Juergens
Joel Anthony Kachappilly
Annabelle Faith Kane

Hayden Timothy Kane
Jason Patrick Kanihan
Gabriela Briana Karnesky
Alexa Lee Kelley
Nolan Koester
James Peter Kourkoutas
Peter Anargyros
Kourkoutas
Justin Paul LaFauci
Anne Patricia Lagunilla
Ashley Eileen LaMonica

Chace James Laquidara
Naomi Martinez Katrina Layon
Jordan Margaret LeBlanc
Jessica Lee
Caio Laite
Grace Mary Leone
Eric George Lingenfelter
Sean Patrick Lydon
Ashley Nina MacGilvray
Evan Matthew Maninos
Sophia Maria S. Maynard
James David McCarron
Kelly Colleen McLymore
Alexandria Nikole McDonough-Padden
Christopher Michael McElligott
Aidan Edward McGrath
Jennifer Mary McHugh
Jason M. McKenna
Emily Elizabeth McKiel
David McLaren
Leila F. McLaren
Bryce Anthony McLaughlin
Katherine McLaughlin
Mya Marie McNaught
Brighid Sinead McNeil
Amanda Page Mercier
Jarod M. Meyers
Allison Elizabeth Moody
Garet Michael Moretti
Trinity Phuthe Mtileni
Shannon Maria Murphy
Abigail Rose Murray
Ashley Taylor Murray
Jenna Nicole Murray
Jessica Malia Murray
Sean P. Murray
Kiara Rose Nadeau
Miriam Faith Nelson
Andrew Joseph O'Brien
Michaela Camryn O'Brien
Patrick John O'Mahony, III
Nora Ainsley Orpin
Nicholas Palermo
Samantha Papastathis
Devin R. Paquette
Hannah Elisabeth Parr
Shivani R. Patel
Matthew Andrew Pendenza
Shane Penney
Christian John Petrie
John Pham
Nicolas Calogero Piazza
Alessia Marie Puccio
Maxwell Jawn Quinton
Matthew Ethan Raspoumy
Denizio Joseph Ricupero
Sean R. Riley
Shane Roberts
Johanna Jassnet Robinson

Caroline Murphy Rooney
Carissa Bella Rubin
Emma Seung-Seung Ryan
Ashley Regina Salerno
Braydan Lee Sanborn
Anthony Matthew Savage
Colby Stephen Scaplen
Alyssa Therese Schuurman
Rebecca Catherine See
Vidhi Hemal Shah
Chloe Ann Smith
Kayla Grace Smith
Sophie Bridget Smith
Zachary David Smith
Stephen David Smolinsky
Gianna Renee Spada
Shane Ryan Spencer
Elizabeth Kathleen Stokes
Julia Elizabeth Stone
Julia Elise Stribley
Sabreena Theresa Strong
Colton Patrick Sullivan
Nicholas Leonard Sullivan
Owen Jeffrey Surette
Dean Jason Surprenant
Jenna Marie Sweeney
Lucas Scott Teabo
Nicholas A. Toth
Jordana Danielle Travis
Alexandra Rollins
Williams Vale
Ryann McKenna Walsh
Irene Wang
Katelyn Mae Warren
Bradley Welsh
Evan Casimir Witalisz
David Robert Woltag
Cara Vi Wong
Christopher Charles Wong
Patrick Joseph Xavier
Ethan Cheung Wai Yuen

* The Town Crier would also like to recognize and honor the loss of James Rooney, who would have graduated alongside his Wilmington High School graduates this year.



▲ Mia DeMarco

(photos: BruceHilliard.com)



Stephen Smolinsky is
congratulated by
Principal Linda Peters

(photo:
BruceHilliard.com)



Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2021



I wish each of you a
bright, happy and prosperous future!

State Representative

Dave Robertson

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To apply please send resume to narecruitment@altran.com & ref code 010 when applying.

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15 Birchcrest Street

Burlington, MA 01803.

E-mail: Shegarty@burlingtonma.org

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Wilmington and Tewksbury

Libraries to hold free virtual networking meetings for 50+ job seekers

TEWKSBURY — Are you 50 or over and searching for a job? Did you know that 85 percent of all jobs are found through networking?

The Massachusetts Library Collaborative 50+ Job Seekers Networking Group supports and assists people in the 50+ demographic who are searching for a new job, changing careers, re-entering the workforce after an employment gap, or looking for a "second act" career.

These FREE virtual meetings are generally held on the first and third Wednesday of the month, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., via Zoom. Summer/fall dates include: July 7 (Self-Assessment & Transferrable Skills); July 21 (Creating Your 'Career Story' Pitch); Aug. 4 (Developing A

Resume); Aug. 18 (Opening A Resume Pt. 2); Sept. 8 (LinkedIn Basics); Sept. 22 (LinkedIn Advanced); Oct. 6 (Marketing/Interviewing Brief); Oct. 20 (Interview Prep); Nov. 3 (Networking 2.0); November 17 (Panel Event with Hiring Employees); Dec. 1 (Marketing Plan); and Dec. 15 (Personal Branding).

Each meeting focuses on a different job skill topic and features different expert guest speakers. Meetings are facilitated by experienced career coach Debbi Hope, MBA, PCIC. Attendance at all sessions is not necessary, but is highly recommended.

Pre-registration is required to participate in the group. Visit www.50plusjobseekers.org, then select "For Attendees," then select "New Attendee Registration,"

and then fill out the simple form. Make sure to select "MA Library Collaborative" as the "Host Site."

The group is currently co-sponsored by seven Massachusetts libraries, including the Memorial Hall Library in Andover, Billerica Public Library, Chelmsford Public Library, Peabody Institute Library in Danvers, Stevens Memorial Library in North Andover, Shrewsbury Public Library, Tewksbury Public Library, and Wilmington Memorial Library.

To learn more about this popular networking group, please contact Tewksbury Public Library's Community Outreach Librarian Robert Hayes at 978-640-4490 x 205 or rhayes@tewksburypl.org with any questions.

Relay for Life delayed until possibly September

The Billerica-Wilmington-Tewksbury Relay for Life event scheduled for the summer has been pushed back to possibly September, according to ELT Lead for Relay for Life Joe Martinelli.

"Given the initial CO-

VID guidance for events," Martinelli said, "we were very concerned about capacity and ensuring we met all restrictions that we didn't spend enough time promoting the event. The teams and committee

felt delaying it would give more time for promotion.

"Additionally, one team that is a corporate team wasn't going to be able to participate in person until the fall due to their companies guidelines."

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TREE REMOVAL

Northeast Tree Inc.

Movie Review

"QUEEN BEES"



Recipe

GRILLED CHICKEN CLUB

Page A-10



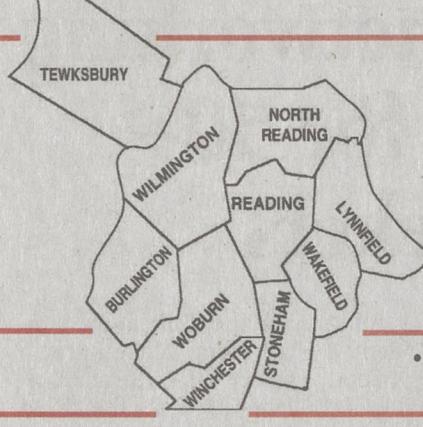
Real Estate Transfers

Page A9



MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times - Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield), Lynnfield Villager, No. Reading Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent

A8. WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 17, 2021



Middlesex Canal Boat

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Local News
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Adolescent Co-Occurring Program

Residential Recovery Center coming to Reading

BY PAT BLAIS

Officials from a Lowell-based addictions treatment center just recently sold a previously skeptical Reading public on the merits of moving a one-of-a-kind substance abuse recovery facility into a quiet residential neighborhood by the town's public library.

Earlier this month, after a previous pitch to move an adult treatment program into Reading met stiff neighborhood resistance, the community's Select Board unanimously sanctioned a proposal by the Lowell House Addiction Treatment and Recovery group to house a unique program for adolescents into a 33-room house at 59 Middlesex Avenue.

The 7,400 square foot structure, which occupies a .32-acre corner lot by Cape Cod Avenue, sits directly across the street from the Reading Public Library.

According to Lowell House CEO Bill Garr, the non-profit organization plans to convert the old senior care facility into the state's first ever "co-occurring enhanced" treatment program for adolescents.

Besides having a 50-year track record in providing affordable addictions treatment options to residents in and around the greater Lowell area, the non-profit organization also comes to Reading with the full backing of the state's top health officials.

In fact, just before Lowell House managers appeared before town leaders last week, Mass. Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders announced the state was partnering with the addictions center by providing some \$3.6 million to help fund the launch of the fully-licensed adolescent treatment program.

The Lowell House award is being dispersed in annual \$400,000 payments between now and 2030 and will help the state double the number of treatment beds available for adolescents with substance abuse disorders.

"These awards are part of our ongoing investment in life-saving addiction treatment programs, especially for young people struggling with mental health concerns and substance use," said Sudders in a prepared statement issued in early June. "The supports and services offered by inpatient treatment programs can often be the most effective option for many teens dealing with addiction and their families."

Despite the state's endorsement of the Lowell House move to Reading, there was sufficient reason to believe the community might not share that enthusiasm.

Specifically, during a Town Meeting gathering in Reading earlier this spring, the community appropriated \$10,000 in taxpayer funding to help settle a civil rights lawsuit involving a previous bid by property owner Daniel Botwinik to

open a recover center at the sprawling 7,400 square foot house.

With the town's insurance carrier cutting a much larger check, Reading's Select Board in total paid more than \$110,000 to Botwinik in order to end the court case, in which the landlord accused town managers of intentionally delaying the issuance of permits for a proposed adult treatment center application.

Under state and federal discrimination laws, sober homes and halfway houses are generally considered shielded from regulation - including the application of local zoning laws - because tenants are considered disabled persons.

The state's Dover Amendment, which exempts religious and educational facilities from local zoning regulations, has also been interpreted as applying to sober homes and group homes where psychiatric help and other services are offered.

Earlier opposition

The controversy over the future of the oversized dwelling at 59 Middlesex Avenue began after the old operator of the Daniels Nursing Center was put up for sale in 2019.

Built in the early twentieth century as a boarding house, the property was reportedly converted into a nursing home sometime in the 1960's. In 1986, the Whittier Health Network took over management of the 33-bed facility, which was regularly ranked as one of the state's top nursing homes in the country.

However, in July of 2019, due to regulatory and financial pressures, the Daniels Nursing Home officially closed its doors.

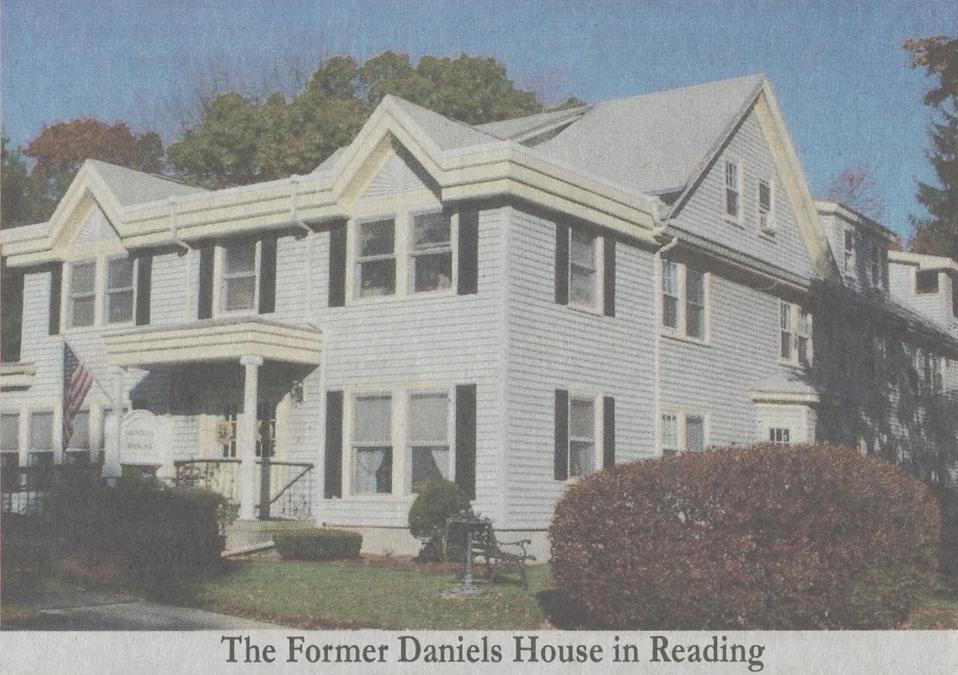
In November of 2019, Botwinik's ownership group purchased the two-story home for \$1.1 million, and within weeks, rumors began to circulate about plans to convert the nursing home into a sober house.

Neighbors, worried about neighborhood children and library patrons coming into contact with potential criminals and/or house residents who had relapsed, immediately began questioning the suitability of such a transition.

In January of 2020, the new landlord, along with would-be tenant Process Recovery Center, organized an informational meeting to discuss with town officials and neighborhood abutters a proposal to operate a state licensed residential treatment program for adults at the site.

In his subsequent lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court, Botwinik claimed town officials showed a clear bias against the future residents of the treatment facility by emerging from the meeting with plans to organize neighborhood resistance against the project.

Referencing one such letter, the plaintiff in the seven-page discrimination complaint claimed Reading Community Development Director Julie Mercier, in a letter sent to Middle-



The Former Daniels House in Reading

sex Avenue abutters and reviewed by the town manager, discussed a plan to stall the approval through local regulatory means.

The lawsuit also alleges that after those communications were sent, the town ignored multiple official requests between March and June of 2020 for an accommodation to be granted to allow the recovery center to open.

Ultimately because of the delays, the plaintiffs allege, Process Recovery Center abandoned its plan to lease the site. At stake was the \$12,500 a month lease that had been negotiated.

Per the terms of the settlement deal reached between Botwinik, the Town of Reading technically admitted to no official wrongdoing while responding to the initial treatment center proposal.

However, besides paying out \$110,000, the Se-

lect Board agreed to a stipulation that all needed occupancy permits would be issued for any subsequent proposal to convert the old nursing home into a sober house or other type of treatment center.

The Town admitted no such discrimination but, balancing the cost of litigation and the consequences of any potentially negative finding by [the Federal Dept. of Housing and Urban Development], the Select Board concluded that resolving the matter expeditiously would be appropriate," Town Manager Robert LeLacheur and the Select Board contend in a joint statement issued in late April.

The other public health crisis
Long before COVID-19 started grabbing all

House TO A-10

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

A star-studded retirement home in 'Queen Bees'

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

There are two genres I tend to approach with extra caution: Slasher and retirement home comedies. Both have found me covering my eyes for not entirely unrelated reasons. Yes, the dismembering is more metaphorical in the latter, but sometimes it's equally hard to stomach seeing a great group of actors reduced to incontinence jokes. Also, I'm still recovering from the Diane Keaton movie "Poms."

The latest retirement home comedy is "Queen Bees," about Helen (played by the majestic Ellen Burstyn), who reluctantly moves into a senior community while her beautiful suburban house is being fixed up after an accidental kitchen fire.

Helen is still sharp and active and capable of living alone, but her real estate agent daughter (Elizabeth Mitchell) just seems to want to get the inevitable transition to out of the way. Helen, for her part, suspects her daughter just wants to sell her home and she may not be wrong.

For as lovely as Helen's house is, the retirement community is pretty nice and full of active and social seniors. It's also stacked with talented actors: Alongside Burstyn in this senior home is James Caan, Ann-Margret, Jane Curtin, Loretta Devine and Christopher Lloyd, all of whom it's a delight to simply see on screen and none of whom are subjected to tasteless gags (although some are borderline).

"Queen Bees," directed by Michael Lembeck and written by Donald Martin, isn't exactly a bad movie, but it's not exactly good ei-



OSCAR BUZZ - Jane Curtin, Loretta Devine and Ann Margret in a scene from "Queen Bees" released by Gravitas Ventures. The film attempts to be a senior citizen version of "Mean Girls".

ther. It has a decent heart and some lovely moments, but it also has many of the clichés that we've come to expect: An incontinence joke, a marijuana scene, stroke gags, a truly horrendous score and an appalling lack of curiosity about the characters we're asked to spend a few hours with.

Movie TO A-10

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• MIDDLESEX EAST SPORTS WEEKLY TRIVIA: Tuukka Rask and Tim Thomas have been the No. 1 goaltenders for the Bruins beginning in the 2005-06 season. Who was the Bruins main goaltender prior to them?

Answer appears below:

Middlesex League tournament here to stay?

The Middlesex League held league tournaments for the winter and spring seasons and by most accounts they were very successful. Putting a league tournament together where you crowned an overall champion really added to the end of the season and created a nice buzz.

However, it may be quite difficult to fit such a tournament in when high school athletic seasons get back to normal. With a shortened schedule where Liberty Division teams only played Liberty teams and Freedom Division teams only played Freedom teams, there were opening to add two to three more games this past winter and spring seasons. But, when a usual 16-20-game season comes back, and tournament qualification is back in play, it likely will be hard to hold such a tournament.

One thing that is apparent is that the Liberty teams, aka

large schools, are overall better than the Freedom, the smaller schools. So this creates a bit of an imbalance going forward with a league tourney.

Just how to fit in a league tournament would really compromise a normal, regular season. It would really complicate the league schedule.

Currently, teams play each other within their own division home-and-away for 10 games. Then they cross over to play the other division once making for a 16-game league schedule where all games count in the respective division standings. The MIAA allows a maximum of 20 games.

The Middlesex League is also not all in sync with certain sports. Football has a total divide where the ML schools only play within their divisions. Some schools haven't played each other in years. Woburn has not played Watertown since 2006 or Stoneham since 2010. Reading has never played Wilmington, which joined the league in 2011.

But, then there are other sports where there are some even more exceptions. Watertown does not play a full schedule in boys hockey. Lexington is asking out of the Liberty Division in boys hockey and now Wilmington was ex-

Athletes & Activities

By: Steve Algeri

cused to having to play the Liberty in boys basketball.

So fans and followers of the league may have to be content with what just passed. On Sunday, the nice weather and tournament atmosphere brought out the biggest crowd of the year for a Woburn game when it hosted Reading in the ML baseball semifinals.

"It's a cool thing and I think all the coaches in the league, and the players, really enjoy it," said Reading baseball coach David Blanchard, of the ML Tournament. "Whether it is here to stay, we'll see, but it really does bring a whole different level of energy to the league, which can't be bad."

Reading QB James Murphy hits the recruiting showcase trail

Reading High sophomore quarterback James Murphy is on a fast track when it comes to the big-time college football recruiting trail. The 6-foot-5 signal-caller, who is still just 16 years old, recently has worked out at Notre Dame,

was unavoidable, but it was our strong desire to not miss a second year."

The Agganis Foundation board of trustees approved moving forward and Halloran worked with Rich Avery, who oversees Manning and Fraser fields, and Lynn Classical Athletic Director Bill Devin, to put together the schedule.

Agganis Week will begin this Sunday, June 20, with the opening ceremony at Manning Field, followed by the softball/baseball double-header at Fraser and the girls and boys soccer and girls and boys lacrosse games at Manning. The girls and boys basketball games will be held at Classical on Monday, June 21, with the football game set for Manning Field on Wednesday, June 23.

"We have always wanted to experiment with playing multiple games on the same day and this seemed like the logical year to try it," Halloran said. "Limiting the number of days we bring people in is probably not a bad idea and we will see how the concept is received. What better way to spend part of Father's Day than watching your daughter or son compete against the top players in the area."

The Agganis All-Star Games and the opening ceremony will follow all local, Answer to this week's question: Andrew Raycroft

state and federal guidelines with regard to COVID protocols.

"We are very fortunate to work with Rich Avery and his crew," Halloran said. "They have been staging events at the facilities for a while now and they are the best at what they do. We are extremely confident we can run our events in a manner that is safe for players, coaches, officials and fans."

Agganis Foundation President Andrew Demakes said bringing back the games this year was a priority for trustees.

"We believe the Agganis All-Star events play an important role in Lynn and the region," Demakes said. "As we watched high schools work extremely hard this year to provide opportunities for student-athletes to complete, we wanted to do everything possible to stage our games. We are grateful for the cooperation of the City in these efforts."

Answer to this week's question: Andrew Raycroft

• DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING WE DON'T? If you have information about a local athlete that you would like to see appear in this column, please email it to sports@dailytimesinc.com.

• Real Estate Transfers •

BURLINGTON

10 Gloria Cir was sold to Lexington Holdings LLC by Gong, Yizheng for \$600,000 on 05/17/21

9 Leopold St was sold to Maimone, Pauline S and Maimone, Stephen A by Maimone FT and Antle, Susan M for \$360,000 on 05/17/21

2 Terrace Hall Ave was sold to Asset Redevelopment Corp by Ravaliya, Ranjan D for \$539,000 on 05/17/21

26 Beacon St was sold to TVI Beacon RT and Tinmouth, Bryce E by Scott, Margaret A and Pompei, Mary E for \$77,500 on 05/24/21

95 Bedford St #95 was sold to Lee, Ivan and Lee, Yuka by Homes Development Corp for \$1,718,000 on 05/28/21

4 Bethel Ln was sold to Annese, Mark and Annese, Emily by Iraci, Felice and Iraci, Anna M for \$775,000 on 05/27/21

235 Cambridge St #102 was sold Pastamita, Madhavi by Tintle, David R and Rodriguez, Diana M for \$582,000 on 05/27/21

13 Corcoran Rd was sold to Holla, Ramakrishna V and Kotatattu, Rajani by Ellis, Kevin J and Ellis, Erin for \$705,000 on 05/27/21

12 Hickory Ln was sold to Lecce, Enrico A by Barbara A Morgan 2013 and Canales, Gail A for \$625,000 on 05/28/21

NORTH READING

36 Main St #11 was sold to Chen, Ya Y by Chan, Albert for \$262,000 on 05/18/21

7 Niblick Way #7 was sold to Funicella, Joseph and Funicella, Lisa A by Swansburg, John H and Swansburg, Suzanne for \$715,000 on 05/18/21

350 Park St #105 was sold to Stephanie Costa Photgrpby Davis & Davis PC for \$135,000 on 05/21/21

17 Winter St was sold to Dager, Andrew and Cabral, Emily by Wallace, Robert N for \$550,000 on 05/17/21

127 Elm St was sold to Wahoski, John and Ginsburg, Emma by Clayborne, Xavier Gutierrez-Gaviria for \$586,000 on 05/27/21

1 Fairbanks Ln was sold to Carideo, Anthony F and Carideo, Rachel P by Moda, Stacey M and Moda, John for \$1,200,000 on 05/26/21

2 George Root Way was sold to Ramamirtham, Ramkumar and Rangaswamy, Nalini V by Thakkar, Praful and Thakkar, Dipti for \$1,275,000 on 05/27/21

1 Greenbriar Dr #308 was sold to McCarthy, Elizabeth by Newton, Joseph A for \$279,000 on 05/27/21

10 Greene St was sold to Smith Sons Plumbing&Htg and Mcneil, Eileen for \$410,248 on 05/28/21

27 Haverhill St was sold to Woodman, Perry T and Fitch, Rachael C by Lonergan, Christopher and Lonergan, Katrina for \$615,000 on 05/24/21

READING

8 Sanborn St #5005 was sold to Gornilla, Arlene L and Hornilla, Lamberto Z by Carter, Richard M and Carter, Christine A for \$940,000 on 05/19/21

1 Scout Hill Ln was sold to Ni, Hua and Carr, James by Marino, Barbara for \$861,000 on 05/19/21

4 W Hill Cir was sold to Baremore, Marilyn and Torres, Fabian by Kelly, Conor and Hodnett-Kelly, Jamie for \$615,000 on 05/18/21

26 Estate Ln was sold to Corridan, Karyn and Cheung, Gabriel by Tarryn L R Melkonian RET and Melkonian, Tarryn L for \$1,230,000 on 05/28/21

62 Franklin St was sold to Dewberry, Ronald C and Dewberry, Robin C by Gomez, Richard A and Gomez, Andrea C for \$501,500 on 05/28/21

16 Grand St was sold to McGrath, Andrew and Luck, Carina by Diggiammarino, David and Diggiammarino, Kelly for \$770,000 on 05/26/21

102 Haverhill St was sold to Pierre, Pamela C and Pierre, Robert by Chimney Hill RE

LLC for \$1,001,500 on 05/26/21

142 Johnson Woods Dr #142 was sold to Wang, Chunhua by Carpenter, Judith A and Mackoul, Matthew M for \$320,000 on 05/27/21

STONEHAM

5 Danby Rd was sold to Bolton, Jana and Bonner, Patrick by Smart Sell Realty LLC for \$910,000 on 05/20/21

125 Franklin St was sold to Macone, Jared by Maccone 2020 T and Macone, Thomas J for \$700,000 on 05/17/21

157 Franklin St #C3 was sold to Bilodeau, Renee S by Chen, Charlie J and Mok, Shui F for \$320,000 on 05/20/21

17 Kays Rd was sold to Patel, Alpeshkumar and Patel, Lilavanti A by Rossetti-Jervis, Marilyn for \$430,000 on 05/17/21

10 Pomeworth St #B was sold to Collins, Stephen F and Collins, Mckenzie C by Van-Hoof, James and VanHoof, Tracey for \$591,250 on 05/21/2110

Glendale Rd was sold to Votipka, Rhea and Votipka, Daniel by Holahan, Walker for \$645,000 on 05/28/21

100 Ledgewood Dr #620 was sold to Sherman, Barbara J by My 2 Sons Holdings LLC for \$557,500 on 05/27/21

35 Lincoln St was sold to VanDerBeek, Adam by Hom, Richard W and Mei, Qingyu for \$620,000 on 05/27/21

426 Main St #503 was sold Akins, Samantha K and Akins, Richard C by Corbett, Ryan S for \$540,000 on 05/25/21

588 Main St #3B was sold Dooley, Sean by Dooley, Heather for \$315,000 on 05/24/21

TEWKSBURY

170 Main St #108 was sold to AA Premier Properties LLC by Cambridgeport LLC for \$329,000 on 05/17/21

170 Main St #109 was sold to AA Premier Properties LLC by Cambridgeport LLC for \$329,000 on 05/17/21

91 Mitchell G Dr was sold to Su, Jiaying and Vu, Thinh by Mader, Donald and Mader, Lisa M for \$750,000 on 05/17/21

19 Mulberry Way #19 was sold to Murray, John and Miles, Deborah by Obrien, Diane M for \$467,000 on 05/19/21

1078 Whipple Rd was sold to Moreno, Henry B and Moreno, Marina E by Wall, Nathaniel E and Wall, Darcy for \$570,000 on 05/21/21

Apache Way #60 was sold Spatola, Ashley by Fuchs, Donna J for \$375,000 on 05/26/21

8 Cheshire Ln #8 was sold Wang, Hanqing by Barthuly, Austin and Mantzouranis, B J for \$645,800 on 05/27/21

76 Geddes Dr was sold to Wright, Russell and Wright, Lucia by Springthorpe, James and Springthorpe, Mary G for \$690,000 on 05/26/21

WAKEFIELD

40 Main St was sold to Dugan, Andrew and Dugan, Jennifer by Beaton, Edward A for \$625,000 on 05/21/21

39 Melvin St was sold to Damiani, Matthew W by Loews, Charles J and Loews, Donna M for \$830,000 on 05/21/21

9 Mount Pleasant Ave was sold to Karlsson, Matthew and Bersano, Ana B by Watson, Thomas G and Watson, Laura for \$718,000 on 05/21/21

410 Salem St #1003 was sold to L Lauria T 2017 and Griffith, Nicole by Sharrio, Jennifer L for \$480,000 on 05/17/21

14 Spring Ave #A was sold to Li, Huihe and Li, Fenghua by Spinello, John A for \$580,000 on 05/18/21

111 Spring St was sold to Glat, Jenna S and Feeney, Matthew J by Shved, Alla and Zvezdov, Sergey for \$630,000 on 05/17/21

45 Spring St was sold to Kramer, Halli L and Kramer, Alexander C by Bertocci, Stephen for \$840,000 on 05/20/21

4 Wakefield Ave #3 was sold to Sangster, Kendall M by Kerwick LLC for \$399,900 on 05/17/21

102 Haverhill St was sold to Pierre, Pamela C and Pierre, Robert by Chimney Hill RE

WILMINGTON

31 Pine Hill Cir was sold to Barrett, Christopher M and Barrett, Karen M by Pine Hill Circle RT and Barrett, Marilyn J for \$550,000 on 05/28/21

and Demars, Robert W by Swayze, Andrew and Swayze, Marie for \$940,000 on 05/17/21

1259 Main St was sold to Abbott, Gregory and Funk, Meghan A by Oliveira, Suzie N and Oliveira, Joseph D for \$520,000 on 05/21/21

19 Appleton Rd was sold to Garofalo, Anthony and Garofalo, Stephanie by Laiosa, Catherine M for \$750,000 on 05/27/21

33 Brook St was sold to Calder, Renee by Tringale, Joseph V and Tringale, Vivian L for \$725,000 on 05/26/21

47 Emerson St was sold Taylor, Patrick W and Honneywell, Katherine E by Brown, Meryl S for \$754,800 on 05/27/21

69 Foundry St #203 was sold Sen, Julia L and Sen, Ellen M by Foundry Development LLC for \$423,000 on 05/28/21

69 Foundry St #316 was sold McCarthy, Megan by Foundry Development LLC for \$403,900 on 05/26/21

69 Foundry St #318 was sold Pearson, Matthew by Foundry Development LLC for \$404,400 on 05/26/21

69 Foundry St #320 was sold Mongeau, Rosemary by Foundry Development LLC for \$546,000 on 05/27/21

69 Foundry St #416 was sold to Anzelosato, Daniel by Foundry Development LLC for \$408,500 on 05/25/21

69 Foundry St #420 was sold Dooley, Heather A by Foundry Development LLC for \$567,500 on 05/25/21

69 Foundry St #510 was sold Tarzia, Michele R by Foundry Development LLC for \$527,500 on 05/26/21

Biggest Differences With Co-Occurring Enhanced Programming

- Medical staff on site
- Psychiatric services required: onsite; timeframes to be met
- Higher staff to client ratio
- Higher credentials required for case management/counseling staff
- More supervisory staff
- More intense programming expectations
- Smaller programs - maximum capacities

House From page A-8

the health headlines, the opioid epidemic ravaging small and large communities across the northeast was considered by many public health experts as New England's most pressing emergency.

Authorities say the drug crisis was initially sparked due to the easy availability of new classes of prescription opioid-based painkillers, like Purdue Pharma's Oxycontin brand. Originally marketed in 1995 as non-habit forming, Oxycontin, in generic form known as oxycodone, was widely prescribed by doctors for well over a decade before regulators realized the painkiller was indeed quite addictive.

By the time state and federal officials responded by trying to cut off the easy supply of the prescription drugs, tens of thousands of opioid-addicted citizens had already turned to the illicit market for heroin and cheaper alternatives.

Complicating the public health response, sometime around 2013, police across the state realized that narcotics traffickers had begun adding fentanyl, an extremely strong synthetic opioid, into batches of heroin.

By now, according to various seasoned drug detectives, the "heroin" supply being brought into Massachusetts is more often than not comprised of synthetic opioids. Described as 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine, fentanyl has been blamed for a stunning spike in number of opioid-related overdoses being recorded in Massachusetts.

"In 2020, there were 1,895 opioid-related overdose deaths where a toxicology screen was also available. Among these deaths, fentanyl was present in 92 percent," DPH officials explained in a May of 2021 report.

Reading and its neighbors are far from strangers to the drug crisis, which has since 2015 claimed the lives of at least 22 town residents. Catching most of the headlines were grim statistics about the number of young teenagers and adults being swept up in the addiction wave - although as many have pointed out, persons of all ages have suffered due to the crisis.

The crisis reached its peak number of deaths in 2016, when 2,102 fatal opioid-related deaths were recorded in the state of Massachusetts. However, overdose death rates, particularly those involving opioids, have nonetheless remained stubbornly high, with an average more than 2,000 deaths being recorded in the state over the past five years.

There is also some concern that the COVID-19 crisis, which isolated family members away from each other and created crushing financial hardships for thousands of small business owners, has already resulted in a resurgence of alcohol and drug abuse trends.

The pandemic also created considerable obstacles for those struggling with substance abuse disorders, a population that already faces significant challenges in pursuing treatment options given a limited number of beds and affordable long-term recovery programs available in the state.

Based upon some estimates provided to the Mass. Department of Public Health (DPH), it is possible that the total number of opioid-related overdose deaths will surpass the peak number reached in 2016.

Specifically, Mass. DPH officials in a May of 2021 data brief explained that the state has still not finalized its tally of overdose-related deaths for the prior year. However, with at least 2,035 confirmed deaths being attributed to opioid-related causes in 2020, at least one model estimates the total number of fatalities will climb to 2,104 - or two more deaths than the peak 2016 total.

Meanwhile, based upon the first three months of data in 2021, the state is now on pace to surpass those 2020 figures.

"In 2020, there were 2,035 confirmed opioid-related overdose deaths and DPH estimates that there will be an additional 66 to 70 deaths," the May of 2021 report reads. "Preliminary data from January to March 2021 show there were 507 confirmed and estimated opioid-related overdose deaths...which is a 1.9 percent increase when compared to the first three months of 2020."



GRILLED CHICKEN CLUB SANDWICHES



JOIN THE CLUB - A hearty dinner ready in 20 minutes! Enjoy this delicious club sandwich made with grilled chicken and bacon.

STEPS

- Heat gas or charcoal grill. To flatten each chicken breast, place between 2 sheets of plastic wrap or waxed paper. Working from center, gently pound chicken with flat side of meat mallet or rolling pin until about 1/4 inch thick; remove wrap.

- When grill is heated, carefully oil grill rack. Place chicken on gas grill over medium heat or on charcoal grill over

medium coals; cover grill. Cook 6 to 8 minutes, turning once, until chicken is no longer pink in center. During last 5 minutes of cooking time, heat bacon on grill, turning once, until hot. If desired, during last 3 minutes of cooking time, toast kaiser roll pieces, cut side down, on grill.

- Spread cut sides of roll pieces with mayonnaise. Cut each chicken breast into 2 pieces. For

Ingredients

- 2 boneless skinless chicken breasts (1/2 lb)
- 4 thin slices Canadian bacon
- 2 kaiser rolls, cut horizontally into thirds
- 3 tablespoons reduced-fat mayonnaise
- 4 leaves lettuce
- 2 slices tomato

each sandwich, on bottom section of roll, place 2 chicken pieces, overlapping if necessary. Top with lettuce leaf, tomato slice and middle section of roll. Place 2 Canadian bacon slices on top of middle roll section. Top with lettuce leaf and top section of roll. Press each sandwich slightly; spear each with 2 long toothpicks. Cut sandwiches in half between toothpicks.

Movie

from page A-8

Ann-Margret's Margot and Devine's Sally are members). But aside from that and a slow-motion walk into the lunchroom to claim their designated table, they don't seem to yield much power or envy among the other residents. And it's not too long before Helen, who is apathetic to their exclusivity, is invited to the bridge table. If you're looking for a comedic, anthropological study of cliques in a retirement home, "Queen Bees" isn't it.

"Queen Bees" also has the bones of a much better movie and is frustrating

because of it. There is a sitcom blandness to the whole endeavor — any edge or personality has been flattened out. Characters get at most a single bit of background: One had five husbands, one had cancer, one sleeps around. In one jaw-dropping scene Helen tells Sally about her days protesting with Dr. King and has zero follow-up questions for her Black peer about HER experience during that time.

Instead they pivot to talking about hair extensions, which Helen is just learning about.

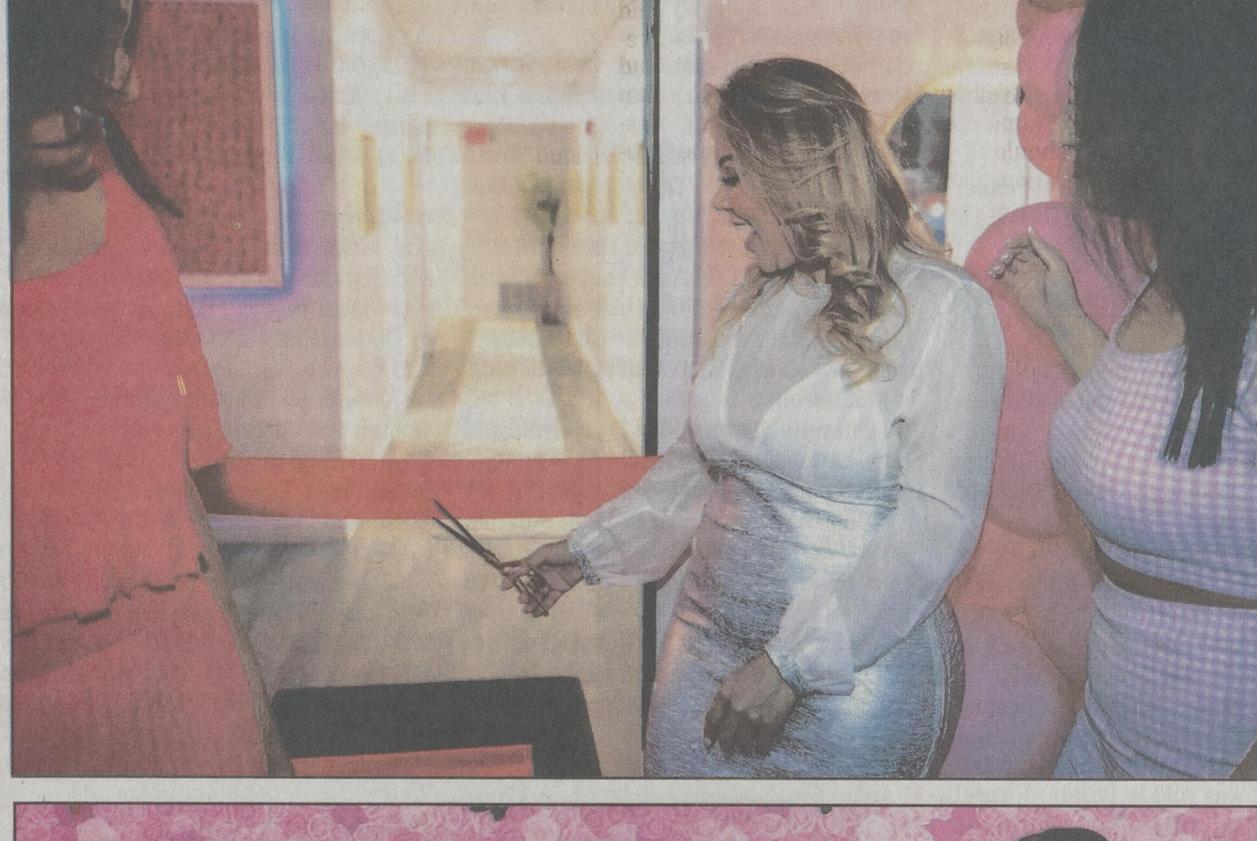
And for all the comedic talent in the film, from Curtin to Lloyd, who seem game for anything, there

are precious few genuine laughs to be had. Perhaps the script should have allowed for more improvisation.

Yet mercifully everyone emerges with their dignity intact. Burstyn even finds ways to make her character deeper than what's on the page and there's a moving tenderness to her little flirtation with Caan's Dan, who is blandly sweet and charming.

"Queen Bees," a Gravitas Ventures release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "drug use, suggestive material and some language." Running time: 100. Two stars out of four.

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Board of Selectmen unsure where to place potential charging stations

BOS 2 FROM PAGE 1

them, and the DEP let the town know that these two met their criteria. He suggested that the DEP's requirements might be related to proximity to the highway, usefulness to multiple customers per day, and availability of power.

For more details, he told the board to invite the Mass DEP's General Manager to a meeting where they could ask more questions.

Caira also asked if there would be a cost to use the charging station. Hull answered that users would pay on the app. While Hooper said this would be good corporate citizenship on the town's part, Caira countered that it also conveniently allows the operator to make a profit. He

said at this point he would oppose the grant.

Jomarie O'Mahony chimed in to agree that Ventile Farm would not be an ideal location, but the Swain Green would be. One other location she suggested is the Whitfield School.

"Further discussion is needed as to what the criteria is and what properties are available," she said.

Hull also liked the idea of inquiring about the criteria and whether other locations could meet them. He'd ask the DEP to attend the next board meeting to provide further detail.

In response to Caira's suggestion of the high school as a potential location, Hooper later mentioned this would invite folks just passing through

town to stop at the school and possibly walk around while their cars charge. He reminded the board that the deadline to accept the grant is July 3.

However, Gary DePalma reasoned that people charging their cars will stay in them out of fear that someone would unplug their car and steal the plug. He gave his support for the stations and asked if they could both be put at the same location in case the town can't decide on two. Hooper confirmed that the DEP is looking at two different locations.

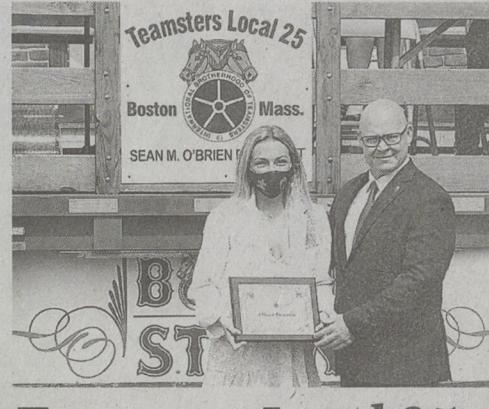
Caira then took back his suggestion of the high school and offered the public buildings office instead, which has places in walking distance for people to walk around, shop, and eat.

Greg Bendel was the last to share his support for the grant.

"I think we could go on and on listing places," he said.

One place he thought would provide something to do while charging is the library. He agreed that the grant should be accepted by the town, but the board could and should continue to narrow down the best locations.

The item did not require any approval that night. The plan they agreed upon was to wait to hear from the General Manager at hopefully their next meeting, and maybe at that point they could make motion to accept the grant with the possibility of other location options for the electric car charging stations.



Olivia Dennett of Wilmington and Teamsters Local 25 President Sean M. O'Brien.

(Courtesy photo)

Teamsters Local 25 awards scholarship to WHS grad

BOSTON — Teamsters Local 25 awarded college

scholarships worth \$58,000 to 29 high school students during its May membership meeting. The scholarships were presented during a stirring ceremony outside the union hall in Charlestown, which included words of inspiration from Teamsters Local 25 President Sean O'Brien and special guest Boston City Councilor Michelle Wu, the Local 25 endorsed candidate for Mayor of Boston.

Teamsters Local 25 also produced a social media video tribute honoring the college-bound seniors.

Olivia Dennett, a recent Wilmington High School graduate who will attend Providence College, is among the scholarship recipients. Olivia is the daughter of William Dennett a Teamsters Local 25 member who worked for Massport.

"Teamsters Local 25 is proud to provide educational opportunities for the

children of our members," said Teamsters Local 25 President Sean M. O'Brien. "It's important that we invest in our future and inspire youth to achieve. It was clear from speaking with the recipients during the ceremony that these kids are smart, engaged and hard-working. Our future looks bright and we can expect great things from the next generation."

Since 2006, the Teamsters Local 25 Memorial Scholarship Program has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarship funds. All students are children or grandchildren of Local 25 members or retirees.

Teamsters Local 25 provides scholarships each year to children of Teamster members and retirees as a way to help the next generation of leaders achieve their academic and career goals.

Teamsters Local 25 is the largest Teamsters Union in New England, representing 12,000 workers.

Student survey may not include questions related to COVID-19

REPORT FROM PAGE 1

and everything else going on, we asked if it would be appropriate to use it as perception data for launch this year."

Another reason included was that the rest of the students in the same schools would also be restricted to perception data from teachers.

The next School Committee meeting will be on June 23 at 7 p.m. in the WHS media room.

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Summer reading offered in collab with library

READING FROM PAGE 1

proved in 2020. While he said that the pandemic had put the initiatives of the plan largely on hold, he also looked forward to returning to the plan. He established that his intentions are to incorporate additional ideas realized by the pandemic and return in the fall with revisions.

Melissa Plowman commented to say that the superintendent had not ignored the strategic plan even in the wake of COVID-19.

"I think you're discrediting things that we've been working on that align with our strategic plan, like our commitment to equity and inclusion and focus on social-emotional learning," she said.

Jay Samaha also said that he appreciated the learnings from the pandemic being considered in the update.

As for the summer reading program, Assistant Superintendent Christine Elliott shared updates at all grade levels. The district's annual summer reading program would be offered in collaboration with the Wilmington Memorial Library. Students should find appropriate book selections by reading level and suggested reading lists sent home with them by their teachers.

Elliott mentioned the work of K-5 Literacy Coach Holly Banusiewicz putting together activities like summer reading bingo and family literacy nights.

Moving up to middle school this coming year, she said that current grade 5 students would not only receive the grade 6 summer reading material but also the information for the elementary activities.

Middle school students in grades six through eight are encouraged to read one or as many as they can of the books," she said.

There would also be note-taking guides and reading guides provided to lead these students to read thoughtfully through the secondary program designed by WHS English Teacher Mia Parvainen.

High school students would be required to complete a summer reading assignment: read the book, demonstrate an understanding of the book, and complete a dialectical journal to be turned in. She specified that the recommended books for each grade all fall under certain themes.

Bryson suggested that parents encourage their students to read about 30-45 minutes for at least five days a week over the summer. She also said that the reading list should be used as a suggestion, like any resource.

Samaha plugged the WML librarians for help if parents are concerned about learning loss or not sure about the right book selections. He was glad to see the collaboration between the library and the school district and appreciated the diversity in the books chosen.

Director of Administration and Finance Paul Ruggiero then listed off a number of COVID-19 related grants and funds received by the district this fiscal year. Among them were a technology grant, a coronavirus relief fund, and ESSERs I-III. He said that some of these were spent already on things like PPE, but others could be spent through the end of fiscal year 2023.

Specifically on the ESSER funds, Brand said that the district is required to do outreach and formulate a spending plan in advance. David Ragsdale noted that the process was reminiscent of the process for the Student Opportunity Act. They would also have to revise the reopening plan from earlier this year provided to DESE every six months.

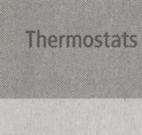
There were two subcommittee reports: one on the Wilmington Educational Foundation, which is still seeking new members, and the CPAC meeting the following night via Google Meet. M.J. Byrnes shared that the MASC and MASS joint conference registration was already open.

They ended by wishing congratulations to the graduating Class of 2021.

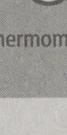
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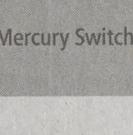
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